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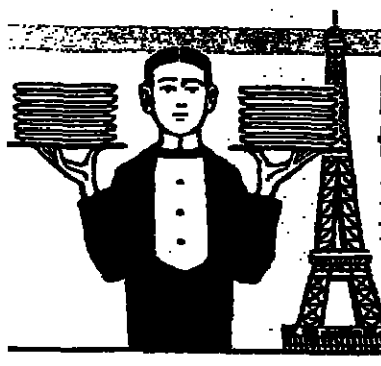

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University chiefs warn on cuts

Students to face £300 entrance fee

By David Charter, Education Correspondent

UNIVERSITIES are to abandon their commitment to the principle of free higher education and impose a £300 entry fee under plans disclosed last night.

Vice-chancellors said that after six years of funding cuts and the doubling of student rolls, they had no alternative but to seek a fresh source of cash to safeguard standards.

Under the proposals published yesterday by Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, about 140,000 of the 270,000 students starting higher education next year would have to pay £300 before being admitted to lectures. Those qualifying for full grants would be exempt.

The charge, which would generate £42 million, will be considered by the leaders of all 105 universities on Friday and if it is approved, governing bodies will decide how to introduce it. Some former polytechnics are likely to oppose the idea, however, fearing that it will deter students.

Last night the proposal met furious opposition from students and politicians. Gillian Shephard condemned it as unneccessary and the Education Department urged universities to seek more cash from the private sector.

Bryan Davies, Labour's higher education spokesman, said: "Universities are not prepared to abandon quality, so we face top-up tuition fees. Labour does not believe such fees are a sustainable or equitable answer to the funding crisis, but we recognise that the blame lies squarely with the Government."

Students expressed outrage and said they would resist the plan. Jim Murphy, president of the National Union of Students said: "This would have a severe impact on access to education, particularly for students from poorer backgrounds and mature students. We do not blame the vice-chancellors for being angry and for looking for drastic solutions to what has become a crisis, but we do not think finding money from students is the answer."

The Association of University Teachers said a signing-on fee set a dangerous precedent. David Triesman, its general secretary, said: "Once this form of top-up fee is introduced, it will become permanent. It will remove from the Government any need to create a more viable funding system." He called for a Royal Commission to investigate other methods of financing higher education.

But Professor Gareth Roberts, the Sheffield University Vice-Chancellor who chairs the committee that is calling for the charge, said a national, flat-rate fee was preferable to the alternative of individual universities setting their figure to top up the tuition fees paid directly by the Government.

Professor Roberts said: "We are very proud of the higher education system in this country and in order to preserve it we have no alternative. We have had to endure five years of cuts and have the prospect of three years more after the Budget. It is a question of 'enough is enough'.

"We are pleading with all the political parties to recognise we need more money. If they do not contribute from the public purse, the only way around it is to find students contributing themselves."

Yesterday's proposal reflects the sense of betrayal felt by universities. Since 1989, they have doubled student numbers in line with government policy, but over the same period, funding has been cut by 28 per cent per student. Last November's Budget reduced income by a further 7 per cent, with another 6 per cent cut planned for 1997-98.

An entry fee would make up only about a third of this year's £107 million cut in capital funding. Vice-chancellors may also withdraw staff from a range of outside work, including quality assessment, but not external marking.

Vice-chancellors would withdraw their threat if next November's Budget halted the cuts scheduled for 1997 and restored some of the money lost this year.

Universities also want a commitment to the reform of student funding by 1999. They would prefer to see students contributing to their education with loans that would be repaid through the tax system once their incomes reached a certain level.

"Wonderful news: Timothy's failed his entrance exam"

ROLAND HOBSON

Detective Superintendent Tony Rogers, who is leading the inquiry, with a photofit of the rape suspect

'Protected' woman is raped

By Stephen Farrell

A WOMAN placed under police protection after a man stalked her for five months suffered a two-hour rape ordeal at his hands in her home.

The married mother in her thirties was so terrified by the attack two weeks ago that she was unable to give the police a full account of her ordeal for several days.

Cambridgeshire police said yesterday that they were "comfortable" with the level of protection she had been given and the Police Complaints Authority said it had no plans to look into the case. But Women Against Rape, a lobby group that offers advice to women under threat, called for an independent inquiry.

The woman's ordeal began last September when the man, who called himself Chuck, approached her as she drank morning coffee in a hotel near Huntingdon. She rejected his advances, thinking he was simply being friendly. After that, he followed her from work to her home near Huntingdon, watched her house, wrote threatening letters and made nuisance telephone calls, some threatening.

On December 17, as she returned from Christmas shopping, he attacked her as she unloaded bags from her car. She dropped the bags, breaking her Christmas presents, and confronted him, only to be punched in the head, suffering a bad cut.

She made contact with the police for the first time. However, she continued to see him watching her around Huntingdon over Christmas and the new year. On one occasion he pulled up behind her within seconds of her car breaking down and offered to help. He drove an old blue Vauxhall Cavalier with a Y in the registration number and was a passenger in a dark off-road vehicle.

Detective Superintendent Tony Rogers, who is leading the inquiry, said: "She spotted the man on several occasions in Huntingdon, once as he was leaving a town centre bookmaker, on another occasion when he was with a woman walking a black dog.

"On neither occasion did the man speak to her. However, on January 16 the woman was at home around lunchtime when the same man entered her home and carried out a sexual attack on her which I can only describe as frenzied. As he left, he said he would kill her if she contacted us."

The woman was taken to hospital and it was more than a week before she could tell officers what had happened to her. Mr Rogers said she had been given protection and had been told that she should not be alone. He said he could not disclose the exact nature of the protection offered, saying only that it was thought to be appropriate for a stalker.

All the police would say was that her home had been fitted with some security equipment, which was thought to be working at the time of the rape; but she had not been given round-the-clock protection. "We took the necessary security measures to try to protect her," Mr Rogers said. "We were happy with the arrangements and so was she. The only complaint she has

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Insults fly as parties bicker over crime

By Philip Webster
Political Editor

JOHN MAJOR and the Labour leadership traded furious insults about their records on law and order last night, with Tony Blair accusing the Conservatives of wanting to fight the next general election in the gutter.

A prolonged Commons altercation between Michael Heseltine and John Prescott over the Deputy Prime Minister's claim that Labour was the villain's friend was followed last night by a speech from the Prime Minister in which he accused Labour of opposing almost every tough action the Government had taken on crime.

Mr Blair, who was at the same time delivering a speech at Southwark Cathedral about improving educational standards, said that while Labour wanted to debate the future of Britain, the Tories were gearing up for a "nasty, personalised, negative" campaign. He said the Tories had created the "*Bladerunner* scenario" of Hollywood movies by driving the poor into violent ghettos as the rich retreated into fortresses policed by private guards.

Mr Major used his lecture to a Tory audience in London to extend his charge of hypocrisy against Labour from education to crime.

But the clashes over crime provoked anger in the criminal justice system last night. Mary Honeyball, the general secretary of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation, said: "Bickering about who is, and who isn't the victims' best friend turns a serious issue into a meaningless contest about who can be most punitive towards offenders. Tory and Labour MPs are reducing one of the most vital policy issues to the level of a playground shouting match."

Mr Major declared that law

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France to end Pacific tests

President Jacques Chirac announced an end to France's nuclear weapon tests in the South Pacific last night after six underground blasts in the past five months. In a short televised statement, he said France would take initiatives on disarmament and European defence in the coming weeks.

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Soldiers reach bodies in minefield

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

ROYAL Engineer bomb disposal experts yesterday worked their way "inch by inch" through a minefield and thick snow to reach three British soldiers killed by a land-mine in northwest Bosnia-Herzegovina on Sunday.

The dangerous mission involved the most primitive form of mine-searching as the Spartan armoured vehicle, which was destroyed in the explosion, had veered off the tarmac road into an unmarked minefield. Ammunition stored in the Spartan also detonated.

With none of the warring factions admitting to having placed mines in that spot, the small team of Sappers from 49 Field Squadron EOD had no alternative but to probe the ground on their hands and knees for other plastic mines. The usual method, called hand-breaching, is to use a fibreglass rod or a bayonet to prod the earth. Snow made the task even more hazardous.

Although the British force of 13,000 troops has a large contingent of Royal Engineers, they have not come equipped with sophisticated mine-clearing equipment, such as the huge armoured bulldozers used in the Gulf War. The Dayton peace agreement which ended the war makes the warring parties responsible for mine-clearing.

Last night, after an operation lasting the whole day, the three bodies and the Spartan vehicle were recovered.

The Spartan, a comparatively lightweight armoured vehicle of about eight tonnes, ran over a mine designed to cripple a 60-tonne tank, like the British Challenger which is also in Bosnia. Spartans are supposed to have an advantage over the heavier vehicles because they are designed for high mobility and have a low weight ratio: they apply a pressure of only 2.2 lbs on any one spot as they proceed. However, the mine was believed to be a Yugoslav-made TMRP-6 anti-tank device which contains more than 11 lbs of high explosive. Buried beneath the surface, it has a single pressure point which normally protrudes. In this case, however, it was concealed by the snow.

The Croats, Muslims and Serbs would all have had access to mines of this type. The minefield is in an area previously occupied by the Serbs which was over-run by Muslim/Croat Federation troops in the last weeks of war.

The Spartan was travelling along a road 15 miles south of the town of Mrkonjic Grad in

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Courage praised, page 5

Lottery winners go back to work

Thirty-three staff from Camden Council's Homeless Persons Unit in North London who shared a £10 million lottery win at the weekend all reported for work yesterday. Two other individual £10 million winners also said they would return to work.........Page 3

Tube fire award

Ron Lipsius, a musician who was badly burnt in the King's Cross Underground fire in which 31 people died, was awarded £650,000 in agreed High Court damages..................Page 6

National Grid wins power cuts battle

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

ELECTRICITY workers last night worked flat-out to avert power cuts in the face of a predicted record high demand.

With temperatures across Britain rising slightly and nearly all power stations on standby, the National Grid said it had more than met peak demand during the crucial hour of 5pm to 6pm.

There had been fears that, with Arctic-style weather gripping Britain, electricity demand last night would peak at more than 49,000 megawatts in England and Wales, 3,000 Mw higher than normal. But a spokesman for National Grid said they had asked generators to bring enough stations on line to meet the heavy demand.

About 80 households in Abertillery, Gwent, were cut off yesterday morning when a generator failed.

A spokesman for the London Weather Centre said temperatures today and tomorrow would be slightly warmer than yesterday.

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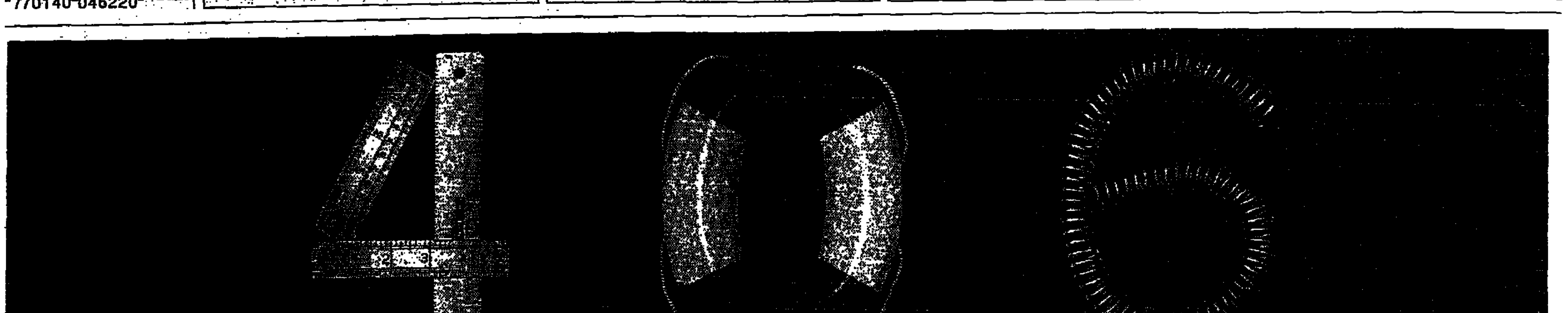

Fun in the House, no fun for the homeless

POLITICAL SKETCH

As news reaches us that Mars may contain primitive forms of life, Jacques Arnold (C, Gravesend), scrapping yesterday with John Prescott, demonstrated that the House of Commons already does. Batten down the hatches: we must prepare for much more of this. Ascending the stairs at Westminster yesterday, your sketchwriter met a group of excited colleagues descending. "You missed Hezza!" they cried.

The Deputy PM had been on the warpath in the Chamber against Labour's alleged double standards. He had been in fine form. Apparently I missed "hypocrisy" and "accelerated hypocrisy". It was, said a colleague, at the same time rowdy and perfectly convivial. The two sides are settling in for a long election campaign, but the mood, though belligerent, was jolly. You will never understand the Commons until you catch the wink which accompanies most (but not all) of the abuse.

All good clean fun? Well, no evil is done by putting up Heseltine and Prescott for a half-hour Monday curtain-raiser. *Star Wars* fans would liken it to a spat between Han Solo and his Wookie.

True, MPs and their audience learnt nothing at Questions, but we were at least entertained: and the new mood says something, I suppose, about the Opposition's new brittleness and the Government's new confidence. "Nobody," said Heseltine to Peter Mandelson (that Darth Vader of the Labour modernisers) "has brought a greater professional skill to the debasement of British political life than you." Harmless stuff.

But after Questions the jousting continued. The afternoon's business was the second reading of the Housing Bill. John Gummer, the Environment Secretary (the Cabinet's R2D2 to John Major's C3PO) opened the debate. It is the only full debate the Bill will receive. Mr Gummer spoke about the Bill itself for about 30 seconds. Then he launched into an attack on Labour for its opposition, 17 years ago, to the "right-to-buy" legislation. They "say one thing, then do another", yapped Gummer, doubtless under orders to maintain the Tories' "hypocrisy" theme in any way he could.

Labour began to yap in reply, feeding a gratified Mr Gummer's sense of personal significance. His yaps intensified. Why had Labour promised a policy document on housing, yet failed to deliver it? Why were they dissimulating over their proposals for releasing the receipts of council house sales?

"He's misleading the House," growled Frank Dobson, the Opposition's chief environment spokesman, but he was ordered by Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, to rephrase.

"He's made it up!" yapped Dobson. "I haven't!" yapped Gummer.

"I hope we can get to the second reading of this Bill, actually," sighed Miss Boothroyd.

Some hope. Gummer now tried to nip the Liberal Democrats' Simon Hughes in the calf, with quotations from a leaked Liberal document criticising their own policies. Then he took another bite at Labour, menacing Glenda Jackson (Hampstead and Highgate) whose complaint against the merging of multiple housing waiting lists into a single list appeared to be that this would result in a longer list.

"Wrong again!" yapped Dobson at Gummer.

"Oh no, I'm afraid *you're* wrong," yapped Gummer.

"Giggling oafs," said Dobson of the Tory benches ...

And so it continued, on an exceptionally cold afternoon. Up on the Strand in their cardboard boxes, the homeless will have felt it. What a way to debate a housing Bill.

Protests secure amendment to Bill

Police assured of primacy over MI5 in fighting crime

BY RICHARD FORD AND STEWART TENDLER

THE Government has bowed to protests from police and opposition politicians for clear legal controls over MI5's new role in fighting organised crime. Ministers will today announce changes to the Security Service Bill, making it clear that MI5 will only operate in tackling gangs and drug dealing in support of police.

The amendment will be tabled as the Bill, which gives the security service a role in top level policing, begins its detailed scrutiny by Commons committees. It is likely to receive all-party support.

The amendment, which clarifies that the 43 police forces in England and Wales remain in the vanguard in the fight against organised crime, follows widespread anxiety among MPs that police primacy might be undermined.

Earlier this month, chief constables at a private conference expressed fears that MI5 would be beyond police scrutiny and accountability. There has been a flurry of high level contacts between the Home Office, police and opposition MPs over the past ten days to try to overcome the problem.

One draft amendment drawn up by the Home Office was rejected by police as not being clear enough. Today's amendment is intended to reassure Parliament that MI5 can only operate in support of the activities of the police and other law enforcement agencies, such as Customs.

Alan Beith, the Liberal Democrat home affairs spokesman, said last night: "It is absolutely crucial it is made clear that police are in overall charge. It is the key issue. The security service should undertake no operation in fighting organised crime without the explicit authority of the police and another law enforcement agency."

The Bill, presented last month, said that "it shall also be the function of the Service to act in support of the prevention and detection of crime". The wording alarmed police chiefs who were not reassured by statements from Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, that this would be enough to give police primacy over the security service. They wanted the Bill to read that the service would act in support of "the police and other law enforcement agencies".

Police also want it made clear that there will be some measure of accountability for MI5 operations and that the security service will be "tasked" by police.

One senior police source said yesterday: "The Home Office was surprised at the degree of concern on this matter. Clearly attempts are being made to defuse it. They are moving ground, coming towards us."

The dispute is the latest round in a territorial war between MI5 and the police. Since the end of the Cold War, MI5 has been looking for new work to avoid budget cuts and redundancies.

Two years ago there were battles within Whitehall over the decision to give MI5 the lead role in terrorist intelligence. With the ceasefire in Northern Ireland, MI5 faced the loss of more work and argued its expertise in long-term analysis would be vital in fighting organised crime.

Parties bicker over crime

Continued from page 1

and order was another subject where Labour's words were divorced from its actions. While Mr Blair spoke about being "tough on crime, tough on the causes of crime", the Tories believed that being tough on crime meant being tough on the criminal.

Stopping short of Mr Heseltine's accusation on Sunday — repeated yesterday by the Home Secretary — that Labour was "on the side of the villain", Mr Major listed areas, such as raising maximum sentences and giving police fresh powers to deal with riots, where Labour had been opposed. "Day by day, Labour show themselves in their real colours ... it's the colour of envy and hypocrisy." He challenged Labour to back the tougher sentencing proposals.

The row overshadowed Mr Blair's attempt to move the education debate away from the future of the grammar schools and on to standards.

In the Commons, Mr Heseltine seized on the trailers of Mr Blair's speech to accuse Labour of "accelerated hypocrisy". But Mr Prescott said that since the Tories took office, burglary had increased by 160 per cent. "That's the real Tory record." Mr Heseltine retorted that spending on law and order had more than doubled in real terms.

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JIM GRAHAM

Lord and Lady Spencer: back together in a new home, but for how long?

Spencers reunite to leave Althorp for South Africa

BY EMMA WILKINS AND JOANNA PITMAN

EARL SPENCER, brother of the Princess of Wales, has moved to South Africa with his family after a demanding year running the family estate in Northamptonshire.

Lord Spencer, 31, has found a new home in Constantia, a prosperous suburb of Cape Town. His wife, Victoria, 29, who has received treatment for depression, will share the house while their four children settle into schools.

It is not clear whether the couple, who separated in April, are attempting a permanent reconciliation. They are both devoted to their children Kitty, 5, the three-year-old twins Eliza and Katya, and Louis, 22 months.

While fond of Althorp, the 121-room house where the Princess of Wales spent her childhood, Lord Spencer partly blames the duties of running the estate for the disintegration of his marriage.

It is unlikely that he would completely sever his links with Althorp by selling the house and its 13,000 acres of farmland. The tax bill following a sale of the £89 million estate would be huge. A further obstacle is that part of his inheritance is controlled by family trustees.

Lord Spencer had planned to spend the early years of his marriage travelling across America. The couple's intentions changed when his wife became pregnant with their first child and they settled in the Falconry, a house on the Althorp estate.

The death of his father in 1992 curtailed Lord Spencer's abiding dreams of travelling abroad. He took on the estate, redecorated the house and tried to establish a market for corporate hospitality.

The house, which is available for companies to rent at £3,500 a day, is run by David Horton-Fawkes, a corporate hospitality expert, and the estate is run by an experienced land agent.

The Earl of Leicester, one of the estate trustees, said that Lord Spencer had experienced a tough year and deserved an extended break.

Constantia is a small pocket still embodying the white man's dream, a Promised Land of wealth, health and beauty where black people spend their lives working silently and gratefully to make the lives of whites more comfortable.

With the Atlantic Ocean on one side and on the other vineyards and ranches against a background of wild hills, the effect is Beverly Hills and the Rockies rolled into one.

Earl Spencer's neighbours include Mark Thatcher and Wilbur Smith, the writer.

Police hunt rapist

Continued from page 1

made is against the rapist. It is not the time now to have an inquiry into our methods. The time now is to catch this man.

"The attack was planned, depraved and one of the most violent I have seen in many years as a detective. This man is extremely dangerous. He has harassed, stalked and now brutally raped one woman, leaving her life in pieces.

"It has taken some time for our officers to get all the details from her. She has been badly injured and she had been badly traumatised. He must be caught before he has a chance to do this to another woman. We were confident we had got the appropriate police response and we were confident as well that we would ultimately find who was reponsible," he said.

Sergeant Heather Thompson, one of the police officers counselling the victim, said: "I am hopeful that with professional help she will be able to overcome this and that she will be able to pick up her life with her children."

The police said that the attacker spoke with a local accent and told the victim that his interests included sport, football and drinking beer.

He is aged 28 to 30, six foot tall, of medium build with dark brown eyes, surrounded by laughter lines, and brown shoulder-length hair in a layered style. He wore blue jeans and a white polo shirt, blue round-neck pullover, grey training shoes and an earring in his left ear.

Detectives know he likes to play slot machines and spends some mornings socialising in local hotels, particularly on Sunday mornings. He may have some association with singles clubs in the area.

- **September: stalker first approaches woman in hotel in Huntingdon area. She rejects his advances. He calls himself Chuck, has local accent and says his interests are sport and beer.**
- **September-December: follows her home and to work, telephones and sends letters, some threatening. She does not tell police.**
- **December 17: man attacks her after following her to her house north of Huntingdon. She confronts him. He punches her, causing a "nasty" cut. She tells police for first time, who give her protection.**
- **Christmas-New Year: she sees him several times around Huntingdon, once with a woman walking a black dog. Also sees him driving an old, blue Vauxhall Cavalier with a Y in the registration and as a passenger in a blue or black four-wheel-drive off-road vehicle.**
- **January 16, lunchtime: he rapes her at home in a frenzied attack, spending up to two hours in house. She reports attack immediately.**
- **January 16-29: woman takes a few days to give a clear account. Police try to trace the attacker without publicising details.**
- **January 29: police release first details of the rape and say they are "comfortable" with the level of protection. Artist's impression is issued. Attacker described as aged 28 to 30, 6ft, medium build, brown eyes and brown, shoulder-length hair, crinkled face. He wore blue jeans, white polo shirt, blue pullover and grey training shoes. Earring in left ear.**

Level of protection depends on budget

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE commanders try to tailor protection measures according to the needs of victims, the level of threat and budget restrictions. Fewer than 30 people receive 24-hour protection by teams of armed officers. These are members of the Royal Family and VIPs whose lives are guarded by Scotland Yard officers at a cost of more than £50 million a year.

Witnesses who are prepared to give Queen's evidence or jurors in sensitive cases will be guarded round the clock. In some cases witnesses have been moved to safe houses.

Police have also organised changes of identity for key informants who have given court evidence. They will be given help to find new homes and work, and will have the telephone number of a police officer.

When a member of the public faces a threat, cash-strapped local forces will be more circumspect. An officer may be placed on guard, but only for a short period. They may give the potential victim a home alarm linked to a police station.

The alarm is usually placed prominently in the house so that the victim can reach it quickly. Sometimes the alarms will also include a klaxon or a piercing sound to scare the attacker off. If the threat is rated as very low, police will give reassurance, which might involve extra patrols at night or provision of a special police telephone number.

Labour unlikely to appeal over shortlists

Labour's National Executive Committee is expected to decide tomorrow not to appeal against a Leeds industrial tribunal's ruling that the party's all-women shortlists for parliamentary candidates are illegal.

Tony Blair is believed to have received legal advice, after the tribunal produced its full written judgement last week, that the party has little chance of winning an appeal. The Labour leadership is expected to recommend that the party should not appeal.

Several NEC members are likely to assert that that would amount to ditching the aim of achieving equal representation in the House of Commons. Harriet Harman, who has led calls for an appeal, is expected to argue that the 14 constituencies who had been expected to draw up all-women shortlists should still be encouraged to do so.

PM's Ulster pledge

John Major will today try to reassure nationalists in Northern Ireland that an elected body would not be Unionist-dominated. He will tell John Hume, the SDLP leader, that the plan would be implemented only with the agreement of all parties. But the Prime Minister will say that the proposals are workable and he will try to quash any threat of a nationalist boycott of elections.

☐ The Government is to end the 23-year ban on demonstrations in Trafalgar Square over Ulster.

Keays action considered

The Official Solicitor is considering whether action should be taken against newspapers in the wake of coverage naming Sara Keays and her daughter in spite of a High Court "gagging" order. A spokesman for Peter Harris, who represented the interests of Ms Keays's daughter when the courts imposed the order in 1993, said that Mr Harris was reviewing press coverage and was "considering his position". The Official Solicitor has power to bring contempt of court proceedings.

Care scheme criticised

Care in the community is so badly organised that it wastes both money and resources and inevitably causes tragedies, according to a report issued today by four of the housing associations most involved in looking after vulnerable people. Calling for the National Audit Office to examine the aims and value for money of community care, the report says the government departments involved are so poorly co-ordinated it is impossible to deliver services effectively to those who most need them.

Bearded ex-Wren wins

A bearded former Wren aged 53, from Kent, won leave to seek a judicial review of a decision by the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, refusing to allow him to be re-registered as a man after undergoing "gender reassignment" treatment. At present, regulations in Britain prevent birth certificates being amended. Two male-to-female applicants are bringing similar test cases. Lawyers say that the interpretation of the law is out of step with current medical knowledge.

Island school call

Islanders on Graemsay, the least accessible of the inhabited Orkney Islands, are campaigning to save their school which currently has only one pupil. Kevin Pepper, 9, faces a daily trip on a new regular ferry service across Scapa Flow to the Stromness school on the Orkney mainland if the school closes. Officials from Orkney Islands Council have to cut £356,000 from the education budget. They are to meet tomorrow to debate the possible closure of the school which costs £45,000 to run.

Women damage jet

A £12 million Hawk jet, due to be sold to the Indonesian Government, was severely damaged yesterday when three women broke into the British Aerospace testing centre at Warton, Lancashire. The women, who were being questioned by police last night, said they were protesting at arms sales to Indonesia. They claimed they had spent two hours damaging the Hawk with hammers and went undetected until they telephoned a news agency to report their actions.

Scottish meat jobs go

One of Scotland's leading meat producers called in the liquidators yesterday blaming the health scare over BSE for its loss of business. The closure of Buchan Meat Producers Ltd, based in Turriff, Grampian, will mean the loss of at least 250 jobs. Alex Salmond, the leader of the Scottish National Party, said the closure was a catastrophic blow to the local economy. "Job losses on this scale in a small community are equivalent to the loss of thousands of jobs in an urban conurbation."

RAF jobs at risk

Up to 400 RAF flight-simulator technicians are expected to lose their jobs in September at Lossiemouth and Kinloss in Grampian, Leeming in North Yorkshire, Valley in Anglesey and Marham and Coltishall in Norfolk, when their work is privatised. The RAF hopes that a significant number will be re-employed by the contractor. A formal announcement is expected shortly. Dr John Reid, Labour's defence spokesman, accused the MoD of short-term thinking.

RAF types, page 5

Murder suspect held

A 19-year-old student was being questioned yesterday by detectives investigating the rape and murder of Claire Hood, a 15-year-old girl whose body was found in woodland near her Cardiff home last January. He is from the housing estate where Claire lived. Forensic scientists have the killer's genetic "fingerprint" but police refuse to say whether the student was among about 2,000 local men who provided blood samples for DNA testing last year.

Winning photographer

Adrian Brooks, a photographer for *The Times*, was named last night as the winner of the features category in the 1995 British Picture Editors' Awards. More than 8,000 pictures were entered for the awards, which are the major accolades for British press photograhers. Mr Brooks, 32, entered a portfolio depicting the plight of young victims of the war in Afghanistan. The awards ceremony was held at Guildhall, central London.

Burglar freed over juror

A man jailed for 33 months in Stoke-on-Trent for burglary and assault on police was freed by the Court of Appeal yesterday because one of the jury was the son of a court usher who had been regularly calling him as stand-in if the jury panel was one short. Antony Longworth, representing Frederick Salt, 25, said the usher's son had become "a professional juror" and was wrongly a part of the machinery of justice.

Calais begins with sea...

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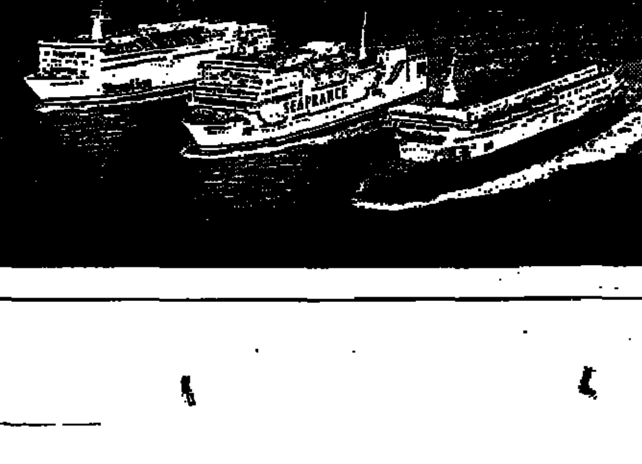

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This is rewarding too, say £10 m lottery winners keeping their jobs to help homeless

The millionaire life? We are working on it

ANDRE CAMARA

The perfect antidote to the Monday morning feeling for Margery West, Philomena Kelly, Christine Winter and Maria Martinez

BY JOANNA BALE

THIRTY-THREE council workers who shared a £10 million National Lottery win at the weekend all turned up for work yesterday, helping the homeless.

Across the country, two individual £10 million winners — a male nurse and an accounts clerk — both also said they would be continuing their jobs.

Members of the council syndicate from Camden Council's Homeless Persons unit in North London will each receive £304,724. Two said they would buy new homes for themselves. Most refused to talk about the win, but four women members came forward to dispel reports that they would all resign.

Margery West, an assessment officer, said: "We are all very committed to our jobs. It's very stressful, but our clients need us, and it can be very rewarding."

Asked whether any would be donating some of their winnings to the homeless, Mrs West said: "We will have to wait and see, but charity begins at home. I have a family and a brother in Canada who could do with some money."

The unit manager, Christine Winter, added: "We are all still thinking about what we are going to do with it. It hasn't really sunk in yet." The council's leader, Richard Arthur, said: "We are thrilled for all the staff. There couldn't be a more deserving group, and we're delighted they're all at work today, which underlines their dedication."

Jackie Greene: not planning to resign

He took the opportunity oto add: "It is a little ironic that the £10 million win is half as big again as the £6.8 million Government capital allocation this year to deal with the huge task of renovating all the council's property, including 29,000 homes and more than 50 schools."

Mrs West, who lives in London, and is married with two grown-up children and a grandson, said: "I will be buying a new house, a new car, and my whole family will be able to go to Canada for my niece's wedding and then for a holiday. I want to move to Camden so I won't have so far to travel to work. My husband isn't keen, though, because he hates moving."

Maria Martinez, 40, a visiting officer who lives in London with her 15-year-old daughter, Arantxa, but originally came from Madrid, said: "I think I'm going to do something outrageous like a bungee jump. I'll also be going to see my family in Spain and I am happy that I will now be able to give my daughter a good education."

Philomena Kelly, a 39-year-old assessment officer, who is married with three young sons, said: "I just want to clear my bills."

Most of the syndicate — 27 women and six men — met on Sunday for a champagne celebration. Mrs Winter said: "There were a lot of tears, and we all toasted each other's good health. But there was no doubt in any of our minds that we were going to turn up for work."

The group began playing the lottery by subscription last autumn, and chose 33 lines which they pay for 26 weeks in advance. Miss Martinez said: "We started off collecting money every week, but decided it was easier to do it on subscription."

Only seven members of staff declined to join the syndicate at the very beginning, and they were said by the four women to be "absolutely delighted" for their colleagues. The women's homeless clients were also in a congratulatory mood yesterday, despite their predicament, according to Mrs Winter. "They were very pleased, and many congratulated us. Although some of them did not like the press attention very much."

Staff in the unit, which deals with more than 2,000 applications from homeless people a year, were highly commended early this year by the Cabinet Office and awarded a Charter Mark in recognition of high standards and efficiency.

The £40 million rollover jackpot was shared four ways. One winner, Jackie Greene, is the niece of Michael Le Vell, who plays Kevin Webster in ITV's *Coronation Street*. She said: "I have a large family and am planning to sort them out first." Miss Greene, 26, of Oldham, Greater Manchester, said that after she learnt of her win "I went straight home and rang all my family and they came around. Then I rang my uncle Mike and he suggested I go to a hotel. We had champagne and room service. I didn't sleep that night."

Miss Greene plans to return to her job in accounts at a motor dealer's. "I am not going to resign. They would be a bit stuck if I walked out."

John McGuinness, 32, a nurse, won the third £10,055,900 share. He said he was thinking of going back to work at Law Hospital in Strathclyde, where he is a theatre nurse, but has been given time off to think things over.

"I need to do something with my time. I can't just sit around," said Mr McGuinness, of Shotts, near Glasgow. Since his marriage broke down a year ago, he has lived with his parents in their one-bedroom house and slept on a lilo. He admitted that he had no plans for how to spend the money but simply wanted to make sure his family was happy.

His daughter Lauren, 7, who lives with his estranged wife Hazel, told him she wanted a present for £25 but she hadn't told him exactly what it was.

The fourth ticket holder is remaining anonymous.

Pilot of charter jet carrying 220 dies at controls

BY EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID AND DOMINIC KENNEDY

A PILOT collapsed and died with a suspected heart attack as he was preparing to land a jet with 220 British holidaymakers on board at Malaga in southern Spain.

Roger Attenborough, 54, was lining up the Boeing 757 in poor weather for the landing. The first officer was forced to take over the controls and took the jet down while an air hostess gave heart massage to the captain. The passengers on the Sunday night Britannia Airways charter flight BY476A from Luton were unaware what was happening in the cockpit.

Air traffic controllers arranged for an ambulance to be waiting when the plane touched down, but Mr Attenborough was dead on arrival at hospital in Torremolinos.

The first officer was yesterday preparing a flight report to be sent to the Civil Aviation Authority.

The CAA insists on medicals for commercial pilots every six months. Britannia Airways said captains aged over 40 had their hearts tested with an electrocardiograph every year, and over 50 twice a year. Mr Attenborough passed his last test in September. He lived in Kempston, Bedfordshire, with his wife Nikki and sons Royd and Gordon. He joined the airline in 1969 and had been a captain for 20 years.

Royd Attenborough, 25, a trained pilot, said: "The only consolation is that he died flying. He lived for his flying, it was all he ever wanted to do all his life. He died doing what he loved.

"Dad passed all his six-month medicals with flying colours. Fortunately he died with no risk to the passengers thanks to the professionalism and training of his co-pilot."

Paco Esteban, duty manager at Malaga airport, said yesterday: "Fifteen minutes before it was due to land, we received a radio call from the Britannia Airways plane saying that the pilot was feeling ill. The co-pilot had taken over and an air hostess was giving the pilot heart massage. We immediately started an emergency drill and had an ambulance waiting."

A spokesman for the Clinica Santa Elena in Torremolinos said: "We think he had a heart attack. We informed the judicial authorities and there will be an autopsy."

One of the passengers, Elsie Jenner, from Lymington in Hampshire, was on her first flight when she heard an appeal for a doctor. "A woman did get up and go up front, but we did not know what was going on," she said from her hotel in Fuengirola.

Derek Jennings and Simon Brice, the farmer. The fruit is named after Dr Jennings's granddaughter, Terri-Louise

'Raspberry of the future' provides a juicy cash crop for its creator

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A BRITISH grower has succeeded in developing a raspberry twice as big and juicy as any of its rivals. The new variety is so impressive that Marks & Spencer has taken an exclusive contract on this year's crop, and promised to pay a 20 per cent premium above what it pays for other varieties. By November the fruit could selling for as much as 20p a berry.

Dr Derek Jennings, 66, known for creating the tayberry and now semi-retired, has named his new variety Terri-Louise, after his granddaughter aged four.

Terri-Louise raspberries weigh more than seven grams, compared with the four grams of the average raspberry. The new berry is a late-cropping variety, starting to bear fruit in September as other varieties begin to fade. In trials last year it was being picked under polythene as late as December 1.

Dr Jennings bred raspberries and other soft fruit for 32 years at the Scottish Crop Research Institute, near Dundee, and introduced varieties such as Glen Clova, Glen Moy and Glen Prosen, which have become standard. After retiring in 1989 he was taken into partnership by Simon Brice, a Kent fruit farmer keen to improve his crops and extend his growing season.

"I was given a glasshouse and a polythene tunnel and told to see what I could do," Dr Jennings said yesterday at his cottage in Otham, Kent. Mr Brice and Dr Jennings have also signed a contract with Sweetbriar, an American company which markets raspberries across the United States.

If the variety succeeds in trials at Sweetbriar's farms in California, the two men will collect a royalty on every punnet sold. Dr Jennings said: "To produce a variety this size, with such sweet, perfumed flavour and fleshy, peach-like texture, is sheer good fortune. You do not eat Terri-Louise like an ordinary raspberry: you bite into it."

Duncan Macintyre, Marks & Spencer's head fruit buyer, said: "When we saw the fruit growing on Simon Brice's farm we knew it was a sure-fire winner and we wanted it all to ourselves. It is the raspberry of the future, succulent, highly flavoured and, on average, double the size of any of its rivals. It has a quality which is worth paying over the odds for."

Dr Jennings, whose tayberry is a cross between a raspberry and a blackberry, produced Terri-Louise by crossing his own Glen Moy variety with a later cropper called Autumn Bliss. Now Mr Brice has 25,000 plants, covering eight acres, and this autumn's crop could be between 24 and 32 tonnes.

Teenage 'bride' will not be put in care, judge says

BY ANDREW FINKEL IN KAHRAMANMARAS AND BILL FROST

SARAH COOK, the 13-year-old who "married" an unemployed Turkish waiter she met on a family holiday, will not be placed in care if she returns home, a High Court judge said yesterday.

Attempting to reassure her, Sir Stephen Brown, president of the Family Division, made plain that the only concern now was for the teenager's welfare. "I hope the emotional climate can be lowered for Sarah's own interests," he added.

Meanwhile, the girl toured the bazaar in Kahramanmaras, the town in southeast Turkey where her husband is behind bars on a charge of statutory rape, looking for a wedding ring to give him on her next visit to the jail.

Sarah, from Braintree in Essex, was declared a ward of the High Court last Wednesday and she was ordered to return home immediately after her illegal marriage to 18-year-old Musa Komeagac.

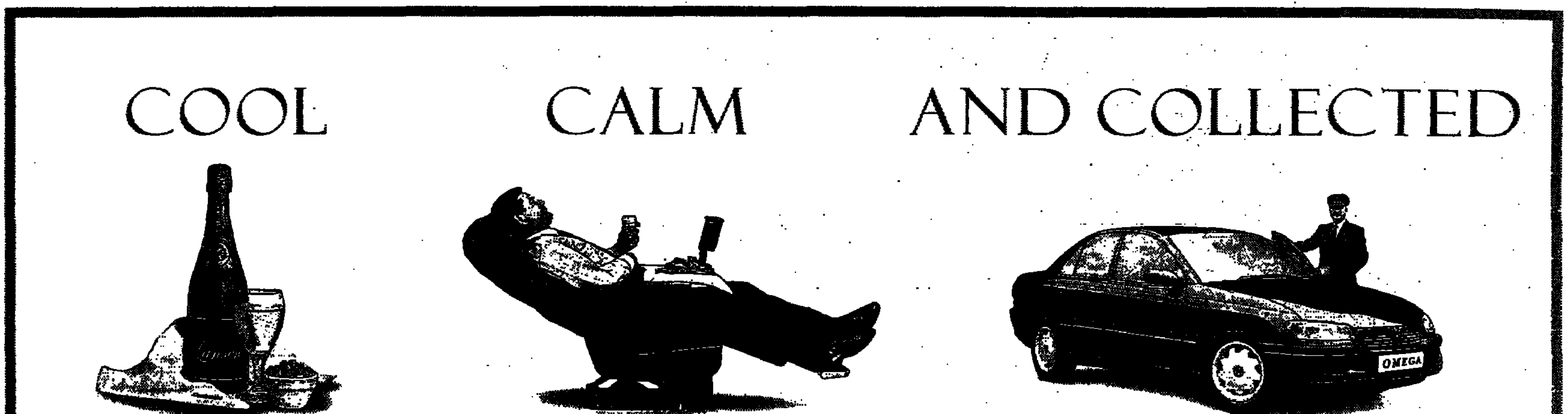
At a subsequent hearing yesterday, Sir Stephen said: "In the light of certain reports which have been circulated, it is necessary to say that these are wardship proceedings and not care proceedings. Essex County Council has no present intention to take Sarah into care and away from her parents."

He said that Sarah should return to the jurisdiction to the court so that her "welfare can be properly considered". He added: "I would wish to say that wardship is not a procedure which represents any threat or application which might prejudice anybody. What is desired is to enable the court to further the welfare of Sarah and to ensure her protection.

"The matter is adjourned while further inquiries are pursued. All this is being done in Sarah's own interests. It is not a procedure intended to accuse anybody of any wrongdoing at all. The purpose of wardship is to protect a minor."

Sarah has so far refused to leave Turkey and in a public show of defiance recorded by local camera crews yesterday kissed the Koran to emphasise her love for the country. After two recent meetings with her husband she declared: "I love Musa. I love his family. I love this country. I don't want to go back."

Her mother Jackie, who travelled to Turkey last week, and senior British diplomats had tried to convince Sarah to leave after she was made a ward of court. However, it then emerged that the teenager is to be called as a witness when her husband's case comes before a local court on February 15.



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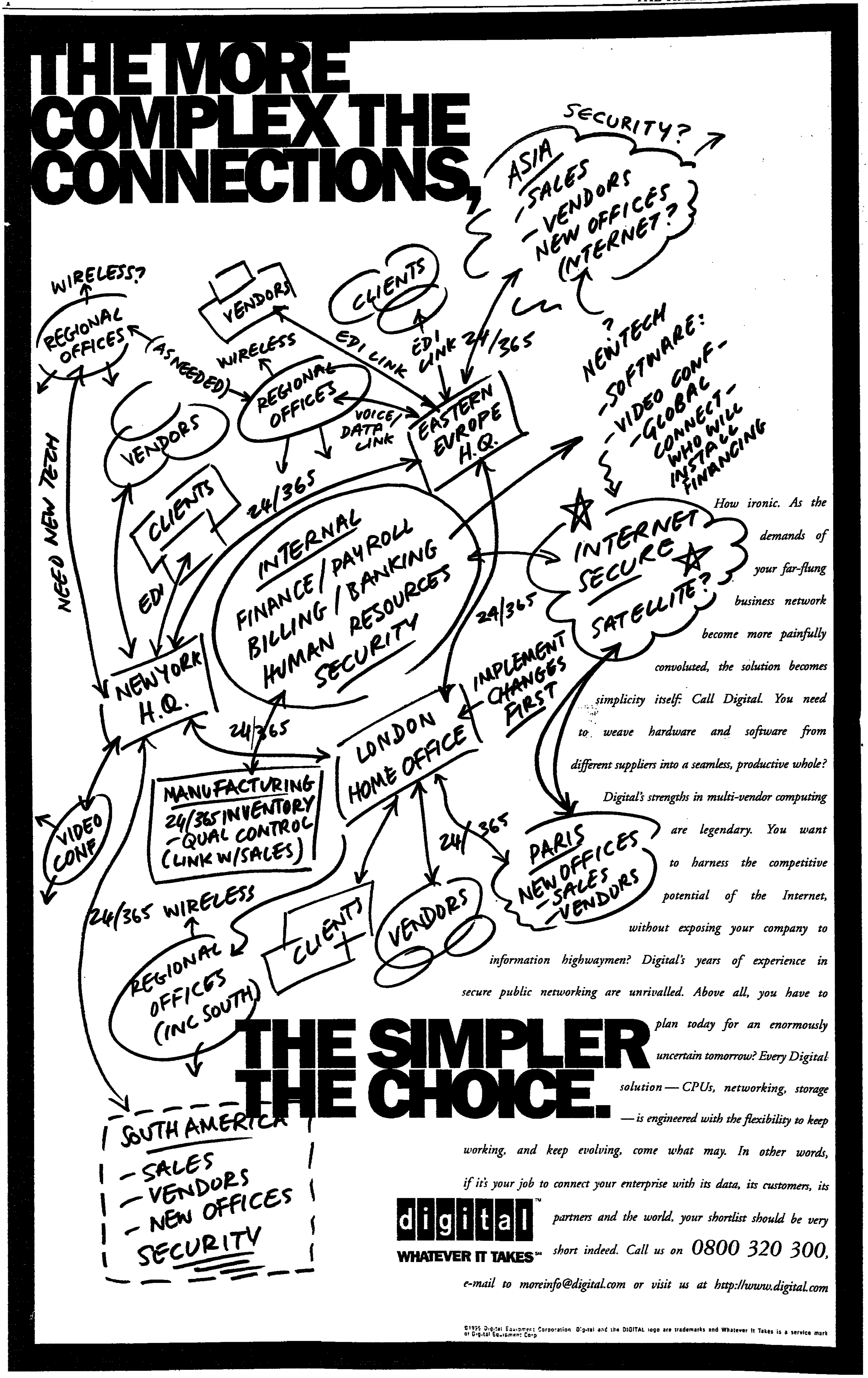

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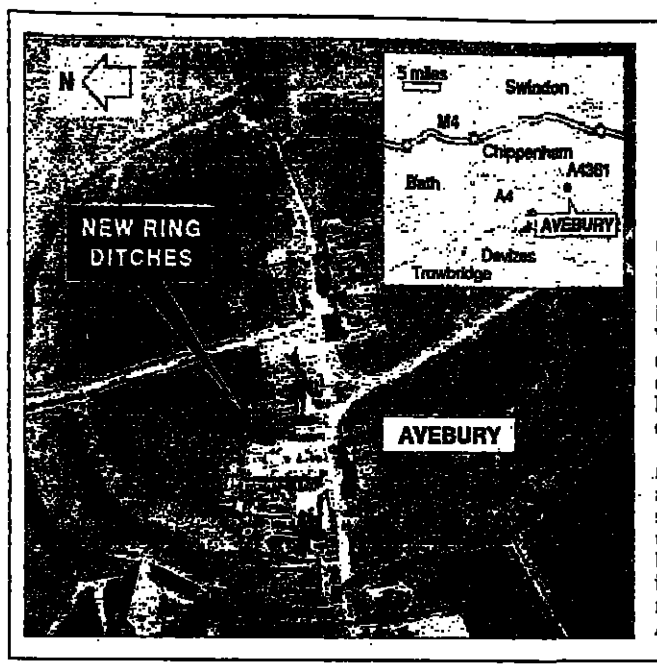


Avebury grave comes to light after 5,000 years

By Michael Hornsby
COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

CLUES to a burial mound dating from as long ago as 3,000 BC have been found inside the Neolithic henge and stone circle at Avebury in Wiltshire. The new discovery, at one of the world's most explored archaeological sites, is thought to have been brought to light by the effects of last year's long, hot summer.

Archaeologists say that such a mound would be the burial place of a "high-status individual" and shows that the site could have been used for ritual purposes centuries before the henge was built. The individual would be a contemporary of the first Egyptian dynasty. Aerial photography has revealed two concentric rings of yellow grass, between 20 and 25 metres in diameter, thought to be the remains of "ring ditches" marking the base perimeter of a burial mound.

The discovery, described by the National Trust as "tremendously important", was made during general reconnaissance by archaeologists from the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England, based in Swindon. They were looking for "parch marks", areas of dried and yellow grass caused by the quicker draining of moisture through soil that has been dug up or disturbed in the past. The effect can still show up thousands of years later.

Roger Featherstone, of the air photography unit, said: "The pictures were taken on September 1 of last year. I did not expect to see anything new at Avebury as no parch marks had ever been seen inside the henge, which is one of the most studied sites in the world. It was not until I came to examine the pictures this month that I realised what was in them."

It is thought the freakishly hot weather last summer could have caused the parch marks to show up for the first time. The National Trust, which has owned the site since 1943, now plans to carry out a geophysical survey, using techniques of the kind used to detect oil and minerals. Excavation would be considered only as a last resort.

"The rings are the classical signature of a plough-levelled burial mound," said Mr Featherstone. "The survey could give some idea of what, if anything, lies beneath. There is a parched blob at the centre which might indicate some kind of burial pit."

Chris Gingell, property manager for the trust, said: "This is a tremendously important discovery, the first of any major feature inside the existing ditch for more than 200 years and the first monument inside the western half of the site."

The barrow could be centuries older than the previously known remains at Avebury, which date from around 2,450-2,200 BC and consist mainly of a massive circular earthwork, with a ten-metre ditch and the remnants of a circle of standing stones on its inner side.

Mr Gingell said: "We cannot yet be certain, but the ring ditches closely parallel the remains of barrows elsewhere which are generally earlier than the henge and stone circle at Avebury. This suggests the site could already have been in use for ritual purposes before the henge was built."

Avebury and Stonehenge, some 20 miles away, are jointly recognised by Unesco as a World Heritage Site. Many archaeologists hold Avebury to be the more impressive. This was also the view of John Aubrey, the 17th century antiquary who stumbled upon the remains while hawking. Avebury, he claimed, was "as much surpassing Stonehenge as a cathedral doth a parish church".

Islanders will defy court over unpaid Skye tolls

By Gillian Bowditch
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

SKYE islanders summoned to court for not paying tolls for the new bridge from the mainland are to challenge the legality of the prosecutions.

The first 187 protesters are due at Dingwall Sheriff Court on February 9. A councillor, Drew Miller, faces 26 charges under the New Roads and Streets Act 1991. The maximum penalty under the Act is £1,000 for each offence.

"Robbie the Pict", a Scottish nationalist who has been active in the Skye and Kyle Against the Tolls campaign (Skat), said those appearing in court next month would plead not guilty and would challenge the competency of the charges, a move open to them under Scots law.

The protesters say about 2,000 drivers have crossed the bridge without paying the toll, claimed to be the highest in Europe, and that about one in 50 is refusing to do so. Many drivers who have paid have pledged to support Skat, campaigners say.

About 60 members of Skat met Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, the Scottish Office transport minister, in Stirling yesterday. They said he told them the £5.20 summer toll would stay and that there was no public money for the £25 million bridge. The Scottish Office says that bridge traffic is 13 per cent higher than that using the ferry in the same period last year.

Myrna Scott-Moncrieff, who runs Skat with her husband Gavin, the councillor for Staffin on Skye, said that she and at least ten others were prepared to go to jail if necessary.

The February cases could prove a headache for court officials if all those charged turn up. The court would be expected to deal in one day with the equivalent of almost half its normal annual caseload. The courtroom seats only 80.

David Hingston, the procurator fiscal for the area, said he anticipated that some of those charged would state their position by letter. "Any pleas against the competency of the charge will be briefly heard and a date set for a full hearing," he said.

The protest has been supported by a high number of Skye's 9,000 residents, including doctors, ministers, councillors, teachers and others who have not broken the law before.

Two Portree teachers who set up the Isle of Skye Brewery Company with a government grant are giving the profits of their Extortion Ale to the fines and court costs of those opposed to the tolls.

MoD told relatives of deaths hours after blast was seen on television

Families praise courage of Bosnia landmine victims

By Peter Foster

THE family of one of three soldiers killed in a Bosnian minefield learnt of his death four hours after watching news of the tragedy on television.

A letter from Trooper Andrew Ovington, in which he expressed his fears about hidden mines, arrived yesterday, the day after his Spartan amoured vehicle strayed into an unmarked minefield in northwest Bosnia. "It is almost as if he knew," his brother Graeme said. Lieutenant Richard Madden, 25, and Trooper John Kelly, 21, also died.

Trooper Ovington, 25, of Easington Colliery, Co Durham, was on his second tour of duty in Bosnia with the Light Dragoons. He was stationed in Hohne, Germany, where he lived with his wife of three years, Tracy, 25. Trooper Ovington's stepfather, Thomas Simpson, said the family had heard about the explosion on the evening news but had no idea whether he was involved. "We feared it might be Andrew but we were left completely in the dark.

"Andrew was such a great lad, always smiling. It didn't matter how bad the situation was."

The Ministry of Defence said that it deeply regretted any delay but that it was important to confirm deaths before informing relatives. "In matters like these it is better to be slow and sure than quick and wrong."

Lieutenant Madden had celebrated news of his promotion to captain only days before his death. He was commanding the vehicle when it drove into the unmarked minefield in poor weather.

The bachelor, also stationed in Hohne, spent Christmas with his family near Yeovil, Somerset. His brother, Major David Madden, 30, a Gulf War veteran, said that the lieutenant had been proud to command soldiers in Bosnia: "He was doing a job which he really enjoyed doing and the family are very proud of him for that."

Private John Kelly, of Sunderland, survived gun and mortar fire during his first tour in Bosnia during the war in 1994. He had returned two weeks ago as part of the Nato Implementation Force.

His father, Dennis, 45, said: "He was shot at by snipers and came under mortar attack but at the end of it all he still came home. He never said he was worried about going back out there. It is hard to accept that he has gone out in peacetime and with one bang he is gone."

Mr Kelly had prepared a parcel containing games, cards and sweets to send to his son. "John and his mates used to like to give sweets to the kiddies over there because they can't get them," he said.

Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, expressed sadness at the deaths but said that the peace mission would continue. "Our servicemen in Bosnia are very brave and run these risks knowingly every day. Their courage in implementing the peace has saved many thousands of lives and their mission will continue," Mr Portillo said.

Bodies recovered

Continued from page 1

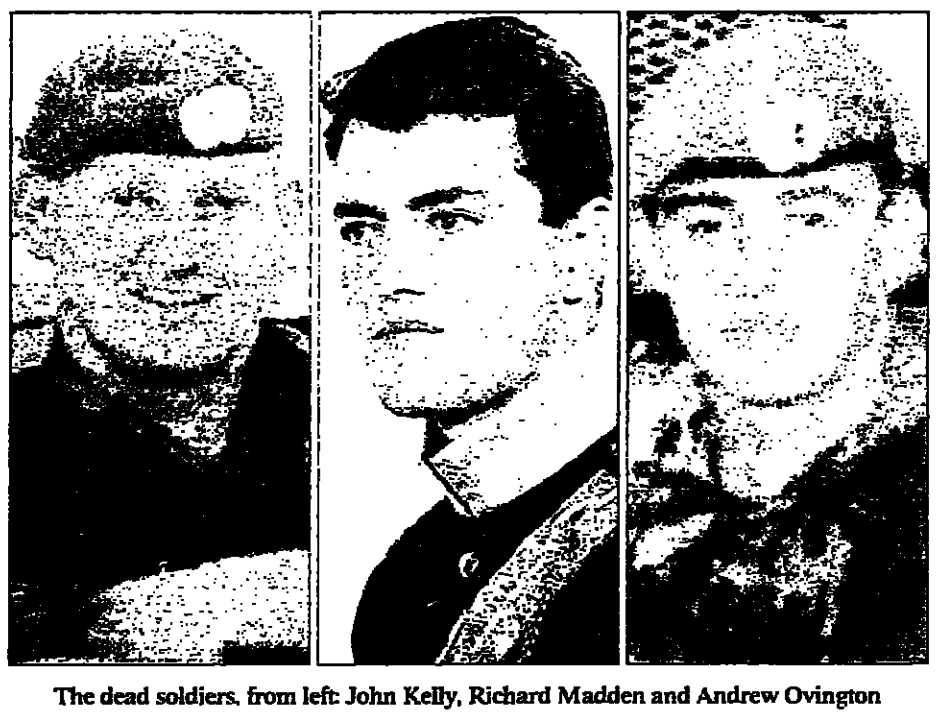
an area which was thought to be mine-free. None of the warring parties had listed the minefield on data handed over since the signing of the Dayton treaty. The minefield is in a geographical area known as the "anvil" which is supposed to be handed back by the Muslim/Croat Federation to the Serbs.

British military sources said that a reconnaissance patrol had recently driven down the same road which links Gornji Ribnik to the east and Bos Petrovac to the west. The Spartan, however, had come off the road before it hit the mine.

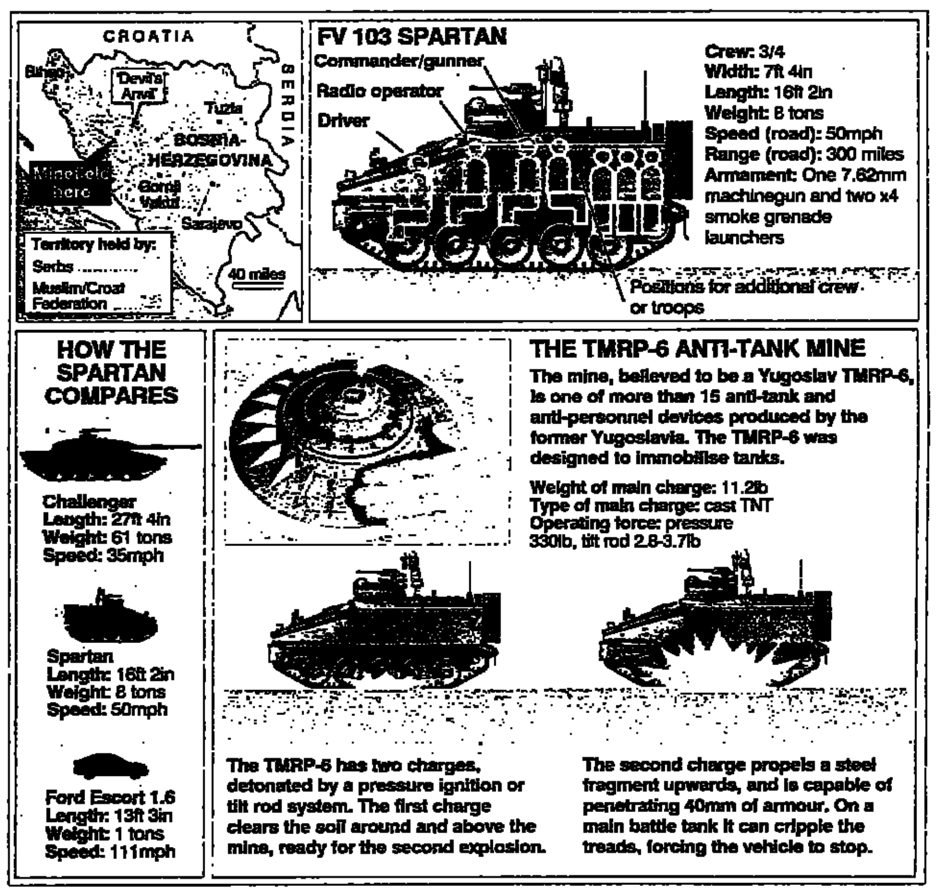
Royal Engineers units have carried out mine clearances in areas where British soldiers are based, but otherwise have relied on the warring parties to provide maps and remove the devices.

In the British-run sector, there are about 1,700 minefields containing an estimated 6-7 million mines. "Some are sown in genuine minefields in a set pattern, but others are just scattered," a British source said.

None of the armoured vehicles with the British force — including Warriors, Saxons, Challengers and Scimitars — is capable of surviving a land mine unscathed. The Spartan and its three or four-man crew are particularly vulnerable.



The dead soldiers, from left: John Kelly, Richard Madden and Andrew Ovington


CROATIA
Bihac
Devil's Anvil
Tuzla
SERBIA
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA
Minefield here
Gornji Vakuf
Sarajevo
Territory held by:
Serbs
Muslim/Croat Federation
40 miles
FV 103 SPARTAN
Commander/gunner
Radio operator
Driver
Crew: 3/4
Width: 7ft 4in
Length: 16ft 2in
Weight: 8 tons
Speed (road): 50mph
Range (road): 300 miles
Armament: One 7.62mm machinegun and two x4 smoke grenade launchers
Positions for additional crew or troops
HOW THE SPARTAN COMPARES
Challenger
Length: 27ft 4in
Weight: 61 tons
Speed: 35mph
Spartan
Length: 16ft 2in
Weight: 8 tons
Speed: 50mph
Ford Escort 1.6
Length: 13ft 3in
Weight: 1 tons
Speed: 111mph
THE TMRP-6 ANTI-TANK MINE
The mine, believed to be a Yugoslav TMRP-6, is one of more than 15 anti-tank and anti-personnel devices produced by the former Yugoslavia. The TMRP-6 was designed to immobilise tanks.
Weight of main charge: 11.2lb
Type of main charge: cast TNT
Operating force: pressure 330lb, tilt rod 2.8-3.7lb
The TMRP-6 has two charges, detonated by a pressure ignition or tilt rod system. The first charge clears the soil around and above the mine, ready for the second explosion.
The second charge propels a steel fragment upwards, and is capable of penetrating 40mm of armour. On a main battle tank it can cripple the treads, forcing the vehicle to stop.

RAF types don't know their Arras from their Elbe

By Alan Hamilton

RAF personnel are surprisingly ignorant of their service's glorious past, according to Ministry of Defence historians.

They know of the Battle of Britain and the Gulf War, have probably heard of Douglas Bader, Guy Gibson and 617 Squadron, but know little or nothing of the aerial derring-do at Arras, Arnhem and Normandy, or the mass bombing of Germany in 1945.

And it is only The Few who will know that the RAF, currently part of a Nato force overflying Iraq, was operating a similar mission in 1924.

Ignorance of the RAF's 78-year history came to light two years ago, when the ministry's Air Historical Branch suggested a possible change in the rules governing how many battle honours an RAF squadron could list on its ceremonial standard. The general rule was eight, and with those squadrons involved wishing to add the name of the Gulf War to their roll of honour, the flags were becoming full.

Bader, left, and Gibson: legendary RAF figures

"We found that squadrons themselves knew little of their other honours, and were aware only of those emblazoned on the standard," Group Captain Ian Madelin, of the Air Historical Branch, said yesterday.

As a result this year's edition of the Air Force List, an annual publication which catalogues names and ranks of currently serving personnel, will for the first time enumerate each squadron's full battle honours. Many squadrons that were asked to check their records searched through dusty files only to discover that the people asking the questions, the MoD historians, were the only ones with the answers.

At the RAF's oldest station, Wittering in Cambridgeshire, home to the original 1 Squadron, Flight Lieutenant Bob Chalmers reeled off the list of battle honours on the squadron standard: Western Front 1915-18, Ypres 1915, the Somme, the Battle of France 1939-40, the Battle of Britain, Fortress Europe 1941-44, France and Germany 1944-45, and the South Atlantic 1982.

"Many people here don't know that the squadron was involved at Arnhem or the Normandy invasion. And if I tell them that this station was first rented from the Burleigh estate by a Major Arthur Harris of the Royal Flying Corps in 1916, most of them have never heard of him in his later incarnation as Bomber Harris," Flight Lieutenant Chalmers said. Sir Arthur Harris headed Bomber Command during the firestorm raids on Hamburg and the River Elbe, on Dresden and other German cities, and became one of the most controversial military leaders of the Second World War.

An MoD spokesman last night dismissed suggestions that the publication of squadron battle honours was an attempt by Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon, Chief of the Air Staff, to improve the service's image and morale.

☐ The Ministry of Defence is considering buying an extra 50 Eurofighters, increasing Britain's purchase of the combat aircraft to 300. The MoD is committed to buying 250, at an overall cost of £14.9 billion, to replace the Tornado F3 and Jaguar. But a further 50 Eurofighters, developed jointly with Germany, Italy and Spain, may be ordered to replace the Harrier GR7.

Last week Germany and Britain reached agreement on production of the fighter, which is due to come into service in 2002. Britain will undertake up to 38 per cent of the production work.

Teenagers are the poorest spellers since war

By John O'Leary
EDUCATION EDITOR

RECENT school-leavers are worse at spelling than any age group educated since the war, according to a new survey.

Tests of 1,000 adults between the ages of 16 and 60 showed that only the simplest words, such as "have" and "my" were spelt correctly by everyone. One in 12 could do little more than fill in their name and address when given a straightforward form.

In the first such large-scale comparison, the Basic Skills Agency said many young people were ruling themselves out of the labour market through their poor spelling. The unemployed were 50 per cent more likely to make mistakes than those in work.

The verdict confirmed findings by industrialists, who reported yesterday that many teenagers lacked the initiative, determination and self-discipline to hold down a job. The Industry in Education group said schools could be producing an "unemployable generation". A survey of 50 big employers and 175 young people cast doubt on the value of some qualifications and found that schools did little to develop essential personal qualities.

More than half of those aged between 16 and 24 could not spell "necessary" and almost three-quarters were defeated by "accommodation", the Basic Skills Agency found. Those who had been at primary school in the progressive heyday of the 1960s were among the best spellers.

In punctuation tests, more than a quarter of those surveyed could not insert full stops and capital letters in two simple sentences. In a more advanced passage, almost half could not place a single item of punctuation correctly.

Women fared better than men throughout the survey, carried out last summer.

Alan Wells, the agency's director, said that having apparently "taken their eye off the ball" over basic skills, many schools had now reintroduced spelling bees. "It's not too much to expect that everyone should have a good grasp of spelling and punctuation."

MISSPELLINGS

	% wrong Men	% wrong Women
Would	2	3
Because	6	4
Apply	9	6
Writing	13	9
Allowance	17	14
Sincerely	37	30
Receive	41	34
Unfortunately	44	37
Apologise	46	35
Necessary	47	40
Immediately	49	41
Occasionally	59	52
Accommodation	72	64

Prisoner with razor raped visitor as warders watched

By A Staff Reporter

PRISON officers watched helplessly as a convict threatened a visitor with a razor blade and raped her, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

When officers finally rushed into the room made available for the special visit, he slashed the woman's throat four times, exposing her larynx, the prosecution said.

Nicholas Fryers, 28, was allowed the two-hour supervised visit at Wormwood Scrubs in a room like those used by barristers visiting clients. When a prison officer said that time was up, Fryers said that he wanted to embrace the woman.

"It was a cold and cynical exercise to get her close enough to attack her," Stephen Smyth, for the prosecution, said. "He had been nursing a hidden razor blade and was waiting for his moment to pounce."

Fryers spun the woman round, holding the blade at her neck. He shouted for the door to be locked and a probation officer supervising the visit was taken outside.

"A number of prison officers were looking in through the windows wondering what to do," Mr Smyth said. The woman was instructed to lie on the floor. She thought that she was going to be killed. "As she lay on her side, he raped her, keeping the blade by her neck to enforce his demands."

Mr Smyth said that normally when a prisoner was armed, staff would have thought the reasonable thing to do was to talk the prisoner round. But they were faced with a rape. A deputy governor arrived and it was agreed that the incident had to be stopped. The door was unlocked and officers rushed into the room.

"But before they reached Fryers he did what he had threatened and cut her throat, fortunately missing the jugular vein." The woman received three cuts to the front of her neck and one at the back which were sewn up by the prison doctor.

When interviewed later, Fryers said: "I admit I had sex, but I asked her first." He said that he had not meant to injure the woman.

Fryers denies rape and wounding with intent. The case continues.

CORRECTIONS

☐ An editing error in Credo (January 27) resulted in an article by the Bishop of Basingstoke, Dr Geoffrey Rowell, reversing the sense of what he had written. The penultimate paragraph should have read: "The Church of England report, *The Mystery of Salvation*, was right to affirm that we deny the fullness of the love of God revealed in Christ, 'if we deny the truth and the goodness which Christ, as Logos, as God by the Spirit, can also inspire in those of other faiths and of none'." We apologise for the mistake.

☐ The Metropolitan Police paid a total of £44,000 damages (not £90,000 as stated in a report, January 26) without admission of liability to three people following an incident in London's West End.

☐ The director of the first episode of the ITV series *Thief Takers* was Colin Gregg, not Tom Clegg (Preview, January 25).

St Catherine's Monastery & Petra

The recent opening of the 4-star Hilton Hotel in Nuweiba now makes it possible to combine the fascinating sites of St Catherine's Monastery, and further exploration of Sinai, with the 'rose red' city of Petra.

Our journey commences with a 3-night stay on Sinai's Red Sea coast at the Coral Hilton Hotel at Nuweiba. From here we pay a visit to both St Catherine's and the Coloured Canyon with time for relaxation before taking the ferry service to Aqaba and onwards to Petra for four nights.

Besides the 4-star Hilton at Nuweiba, accommodation has been reserved at the 4-star Forum Hotel in Petra. The journey concludes with a drive across the newly-opened border to Ovda (up to May) for the return flight to London Gatwick.

The Monastery of St Catherine has attracted pilgrims since AD 337 when the Empress Helena, mother of Constantine, ordered the building of a sanctuary around the site of the Burning Bush. Its spectacular setting at the foot of Mt Sinai adds to the solitude and mystery of the site.

Petra was lost to the world after a change in well established trading routes but was re-discovered by the famous Swiss explorer Burckhardt in 1812. Since then, the area, 'half as old as time', has been a magnet for generations of travellers wishing to see and experience a truly unique city.

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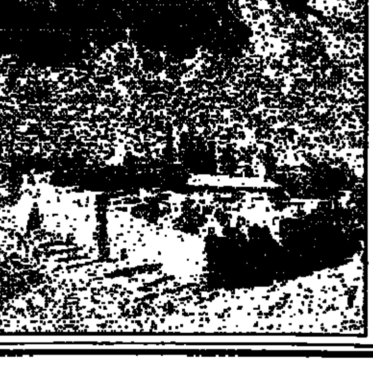

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Musician who has endured eight years of pain condemns 'wicked' London Transport

King's Cross fire victim bitter at £650,000 award

BY TIM JONES

A MUSICIAN who was badly burnt in the King's Cross Underground fire, in which 31 people died, was yesterday awarded £650,000 in agreed High Court damages.

Ron Lipsius, 39, who played the guitar and hoped to be a composer of advertising jingles, had endured "a vision of hell", his counsel said. He suffered dreadful injuries to his hands as he used them to protect his face.

After the settlement, Mr Lipsius, furious that he had had to fight for more than eight years and been offered much less money than he had expected, said London Transport was a "wicked organisation".

"Time heals but you do not forget the hurt," he said. "I hate London Transport for the accumulative incompetence that caused the hell on earth in 1987. They've shown no remorse. They have no good will. People were maimed and killed and they threw the survivors to the legal sharks."

Mr Lipsius, a father of three young children, has undergone 18 operations and years of pain since the fire in November 1987. One of the operations had to be carried out without anaesthetic. He faces at least ten more operations. His severe post-traumatic stress led to continuing depression, for which he is still being treated.

Mr Lipsius said he would use the money to help to build a recording studio at his home. Now, instead of the guitar, which he can no longer play, he works with an electric keyboard. "My plans are still in music. That's what I do."

Ron Lipsius in hospital after the 1987 King's Cross fire

The payment to Mr Lipsius, of Hammersmith, west London, is almost twice as much as the previous highest award of £375,616, paid to Mahendra Parmar, 45, a ticket collector who had stayed to help passengers to escape the inferno. It was the 84th case to arise from the tragedy and there are three still outstanding. The total paid by London Regional Transport, which admitted liability for the purpose of yesterday's action, stands at more than £4 million.

As surgeons at University College Hospital struggled to save his hands, Mr Lipsius suffered such severe pain he was, for eight weeks, prescribed heroin. He had years of daily doses of painkillers before he could begin physiotherapy.

On the night of the fire, Mr Lipsius was travelling on an Underground train with a friend's mother, Natalie Falco, who died. He escaped because he knew the station and managed to grope his way to one of the exits.

Colin Mackay, QC, his counsel, said the enormously skilful and, of necessity, aggressive treatment Mr Lipsius had received at the hospital saved his hands to a remarkable degree. He could use them for many of the purposes of life but the "supreme tragedy" was that he wanted more than that. American-born, he had gained the equivalent of a first-class degree in music in New York and had good contacts in the advertising world.

Mr Justice Butterfield, approving the award, said: "His recovery, partial and incomplete as it is, is quite plainly a tribute to the skill of the doctors who treated him, the support of his family and, above all, the dogged determination of Mr Lipsius himself."

The judge added: "In one sense, no money can compensate him for the devastating injuries and dreadful post-traumatic stress disorder consequences of the nightmare of this fire. It is plain he showed great bravery and endurance in seeking to rebuild his shattered life. His hopes for a future in the music industry have been destroyed."

Judge Butterfield said the settlement represented a realistic interpretation of the loss and damages suffered set against the uncertainties of the litigation in the action.

After the hearing, Mr Lipsius, who was accompanied by his wife Sally, said he was disappointed by the award. "My life and career have been ruined. I was hoping for a lot more, but it is a risky business and you just have to settle for less or go through an incredible amount of stress and maybe get less."

For London Transport, Patricia Dryden, head of the litigation department, said: "We are pleased the compensation amount for Mr Lipsius has now been settled and wish both him and his family all the best for the future. We are sorry that Mr Lipsius was injured in the King's Cross fire."

CHRIS HARRIS

Mr Lipsius and his wife Sally at the High Court yesterday. He was awarded agreed damages after having endured a "vision of hell" and 18 operations

Woman wins £82,000 for RSI

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A TYPIST has been awarded a record £82,000 damages for repetitive strain injury she sustained while working for the Inland Revenue. Kathleen Tovey, 48, was retired on medical grounds two years ago after she developed a crippling upper limb disorder.

Mrs Tovey, from Redditch, Hereford and Worcester, who had worked as an audio typist since 1986 and is categorised as 30 per cent disabled, was diagnosed as suffering from tenosynovitis, a repetitive strain injury (RSI), in 1990. She said it had affected every aspect of her life. "I can't work. I can't do proper housework. I can't garden, carry shopping, have a bath, and even getting dressed is difficult."

She is delighted with the damages, which were agreed in an out-of-court settlement before the case was due to be heard at Birmingham County Court in October, but which were not announced until yesterday. "I've been able to buy things to make my life easier, such as a food processor and a dishwasher."

Richard Langton, Mrs Tovey's solicitor and a senior partner in the *Birmingham firm of Russell Jones* & Walker, said yesterday that the award would end doubts about the existence of RSI. "There has been too much speculation that this condition does not exist except in the minds of avaricious plaintiffs. An award of this magnitude proves that the condition is genuine."

The announcement of Mrs Tovey's award was delayed until the successful outcome of negotiations for a ground-breaking compensation scheme for sufferers of RSI between the Inland Revenue and the Public Services, Taxation and Commerce Union. The scheme follows a series of actions by sufferers which failed because of conflicting medical evidence.

Mr Langton said: "We have been negotiating a settlement for all employees of the Inland Revenue so *that they will all get compensation if* they suffer from RSI without the need for lengthy and expensive court battles."

He added: "Of course, there has to be medical evidence to substantiate the claim, but if a medical disorder is proved then the claim will be settled. It takes away the courtroom lottery that determines whether or not a claimant gets compensation and ensures the money is paid to victims, not to lawyers."

Family sue Dunlop over crash

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE family of a woman blinded in a car accident blame the tyre-maker Dunlop for her injuries, the High Court was told yesterday. Susan Carroll was in the front passenger seat of her family's Austin Princess with her husband Alan and two children, Catherine and Stephen, as *they drove on the M4, near* Swindon, Wiltshire, on the first day of their summer holiday in 1988.

A Ford Cortina on the opposite side of the motorway suffered a tyre blow-out and crashed through a gap in the central reservation, colliding head-on with the Carrolls' car, the court was told. Lolita Barclay, 12, who was in the Cortina, which was being driven to a wedding, was killed.

The Carroll family, from Wantage, Oxfordshire, are suing Dunlop, who made the seven-year-old Radial SP4 tyre, as well as Lunday Fearon, the driver, and Alexander Bent, its owner.

John Crowley, QC, for the Carrolls, told the High Court, sitting at Oxford, that the tyre showed poor cord bonding between the tread and the steel inside the tyre. "*It looks* as if *Dunlop* were aware that in the normal service life you could get looseness leading to separation as well as unacceptable levels of corrosion if you had a penetration or puncture." Mr Crowley said.

"They ought to have taken steps to warn people and withdraw the SP4 from then onwards. It was the tyre tread separation from the rest of the tyre which caused the catastrophe." That could have been caused by poor manufacture or by bad maintenance, he said. The tyre had been badly repaired after a puncture.

The other rear tyre was well below its correct inflation level. "The inference is the tyre which burst was certainly under-inflated for a full load with fast speeds on the motorway. Mr Bent, who was *in the vehicle, should have better* maintained the tyres, Mr Crowley said. "It was a ropey-looking tyre. He should have had it changed."

In two other actions being heard by Judge Mellor, QC, at the same time, Mr Fearon is suing Dunlop and Mr Bent, and the two other passengers in the Cortina, Astrid Barclay and Delroy Bent, 14, are suing Dunlop. Dunlop contests the claims. The case is expected to last three weeks.

How man was beaten to Mars — by bacteria

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

MARS may contain primitive forms of life similar to those which existed on Earth more than three billion years ago, and the two planets may even have "seeded" each other, according to scientists meeting in London this week.

A new phase of space exploration is about to begin to investigate the possibility of *life on Mars, which would* greatly increase the statistical chance of intelligent life elsewhere in the universe.

There is "a significant possibility" that bacteria which survive in extreme conditions could be found, says Professor Malcolm Walter of Macquarie University in Australia, who will chair a symposium of the Ciba Foundation.

The Viking spacecraft which *landed on Mars 20 years ago* found no sign of life, but since then a huge range of primitive bacteria have been discovered on Earth, living around the vents of suboceanic volcanoes or deep beneath the surface in oil reserves. Known as extremophiles, they can survive at 80C or more, and represent a survival from the earliest life on Earth. Either now or in the past, Mars could have had similar bacteria.

A spacecraft to be launched this year by Nasa is expected to land on Mars in July 1997. Dr Jack Farmer of the agency's Ames Research Centre said the landing place, at the end of a huge channel called the Ares Vallis outflow, had been chosen to match the kind of places where extremophiles were found on Earth. The *channels are thought to have* been created by outflows of water from the planet's interior. If primitive life evolved on Mars but then died out, fossils of bacteria may be found. Scientists will not know for sure until rocks are brought back by another mission in about 2005.

The odds are that if life did emerge, it remained at a *primitive level, since the planet* has lacked liquid surface water for two billion years. If Mars does have life, it may be hard to find. "If it is hundreds of metres below the surface, we may have to wait for manned exploration before we can drill holes deep enough," said Dr Farmer. That is unlikely before 2020.

The symposium is titled *The evolution of hydrothermal ecosystems on Earth (and Mars?)*. Among those present, Professor Paul Davies, of the University of Adelaide, says it is even possible that bacteria had been transported between the planets by meteorites. Every year, about 500 tons of Mars lands on Earth.

This is mostly dust, but one piece was large enough to kill a dog in Nakhla, Egypt, in 1911. Such chunks are broken off by the impact of asteroids on the surface of Mars. Undoubtedly, similar pieces of Earth have reached Mars in the past. Could such meteorites carry bacteria between the planets? "Inside rocks, bacteria might remain viable as spores for millions of years," said Professor Davies. "It is possible Mars was seeded with life from the Earth, or the *Earth from Mars.*"

Pearson: bought tablet

Navy sacks Wren over Ecstasy

A WREN who bought an Ecstasy tablet for her sailor boyfriend to improve their sex life was dismissed the service yesterday.

A court martial was told that Radio Operator Elizabeth Pearson, 23, obtained a tablet for Francis Craig when he told her it would improve sex. She was ordered to be detained for 60 days and deprived of a good-conduct badge.

The Portsmouth hearing was told that Pearson and Craig were staying in bed-and-breakfast accommodation in Somerset on a weekend in 1992.

Pearson, who was stationed at *HMS Heron* airbase, Yeovilton, admitted obtaining a tablet from a civilian friend. Craig, who has since been jailed for drug offences, crumbled it into alcohol.

Captain Malcolm Shirley, president of the court martial, said: "Quite simply, drug abuse is not acceptable in the Royal Navy."

BBC to produce everyday story of Romanian folk

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

ROMANIA is soon to have its first radio soap opera, based on Radio 4's *The Archers*, carrying the message of democracy and private enterprise into the former eastern bloc state.

The programme will be made by the BBC World Service and broadcast from Bucharest twice a week from April.

The BBC yesterday began a search for experienced British soap opera writers and producers to work on the Romanian-language programme. Kari Blackburn, of the World Service, said that hints on business management, economic reform and private enterprise were likely to be incorporated into the saga about an everyday Romanian family.

"Romania has imported television soaps from places like Mexico but there is nothing that reflects the lives of its own people. This soap is being developed as a form of 'edutainment' for people who might not otherwise tune into educational programmes," she said.

The idea for the programme came directly from *The Archers*, which was conceived in post-war Britain as a device by which farmers could be fed agricultural news and advice to boost food production.

The seeds for *The Archers* were sown in 1948 at a meeting between farming representatives and the BBC. One farmer suggested a drama-based approach to agricultural topics, modelled on the popular radio crime thriller *Dick Barton, Secret Agent*. A producer took up the challenge and in 1951 *The Archers*, based in the fictional village of Ambridge, made its debut.

Ms Blackburn is hoping to recruit people who have worked on *The Archers* and television soaps such as *EastEnders* and *Coronation Street* to work on the Romanian programme. The series is part of a World Service project known as the Marshall Plan of the Mind, a name echoing America's post-war aid to Europe. The aim of the project, which has funding from the Foreign Office, the European Union and charities, is to help people in former communist bloc countries adapt to modern ways.

A similar project in Russia, launched three years ago, *attracts daily audiences of up* to ten million. *House Seven, Entrance 4* was created by Liz Rigby, former editor of *The Archers*, and is set in a housing block.

Radio, page 40

Tory MP cleared of driving charge

A senior Tory MP was cleared yesterday of a careless driving charge brought after another motorist complained about his driving. Sir Peter Emery, MP for Honiton, Devon, denied driving without due care and attention last March.

Sian Cooper, from Exmouth, claimed his Jaguar was too close to her and that he "alarmed" an oncoming driver when he pulled out.

She claimed Sir Peter tried to overtake her as she left a roundabout and felt she was being "pushed along" by his car. She was so concerned she asked her 11-year-old son Stewart to note the number of the car.

Sir Peter, 69, said the magistrates' decision was "the right and proper verdict".

Footballer held

The Liverpool footballer Neil Ruddock was arrested after his Porsche left the road on the Formby bypass near Southport and overturned, police said. The accident happened on Sunday night and the driver had gone by the time police arrived at the scene. The 27-year-old defender, who said he was not the driver and that the car had been stolen, was released without charge.

Jimmy's expands

A £50 million wing with 246 beds is to be built with private funds at St James's Hospital in Leeds, better known as Jimmy's. The project is the biggest NHS development approved so far under the Government's Private Finance Initiative. The wing, which is due for completion in 1998, includes 166 children's beds and will create an estimated 400 jobs.

Daewoo recall

The Korean car manufacturer Daewoo is recalling up to 8,000 of its vehicles, including dozens given free to motorists to test-drive for a year. Wiring faults have been discovered on its Nexia model, which could cause a fire in the engine compartment. Customers are asked to ring Daewoo's freephone number, 0800 060606. Repairs should take only an hour.

Boy's torment

A man was convicted of cruelty to a two-year-old boy and causing him grievous bodily harm with intent in a case the judge said was "almost in the category of torture". Patrick Grant, 29, of Paddington, London, was jailed for five years by Southwark Crown Court. The jury was told Grant subjected the boy to "appalling acts" over a period of six hours one night last August.

River power

John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, turned on lights at St Joseph's primary *school in Wandsworth, south*-west London, powered by a water turbine. The £70,000 turbine is driven by the River Wandle and linked to the school by a £10,000 cable. Mr Gummer said: "It is very exciting and brings home the importance of this kind of environmental issue."

Sting in tail

A police car chasing five masked men in a stolen vehicle in Sheffield fell foul of a Stinger, a chain of spikes thrown down by other officers and intended for their quarry. All the tyres of the police car were punctured *and the suspects escaped*. Inspector Peter Darling said: "We are not dealing with an exact science. More often than not we sting the right vehicle."

Triple birthday

Charles Stonadge upheld a family tradition as he drew his first breath — he, his father Jeff and his grandmother were all born on the same date. Mr Stonadge, 30, of Bedale, North Yorkshire, said: "When he turns 18 in 2014, I'll become 50 and my mum will turn 80. What a party we'll have then." Charles's mother, Nichola, gave birth 50 minutes after midnight on January 23.

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Heseltine hits new low with charge of Labour villainy

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

In the American mid-term elections in 1990, two of the Democratic (yes, Democratic) candidates for Governor of Texas, one a former Governor and the other the current Attorney-General, put out competing advertisements about which had authorised or been present at more executions. On one of the television spots, the candidate was shown walking in front of large photographs of those executed (most of whom were black). As Ann Richards, their successful rival, noted, there seemed to be a competition about who had killed more fellow Texans. Is British politics about to descend to such depths?

Michael Heseltine is never knowingly undersold in his political gibes. But even by his knockabout standards, his weekend claim that Labour is "on the side of the villain" strikes a new low. It was compounded by a demeaning exchange of statistics by both main parties during Deputy Prime Minister's Questions yesterday. Rival claims about spending and recorded crime figures merely show the limited influence which any government has in this area.

The Tory attack is a classic exercise in guilt by association: that because Labour had not supported some of the Government's law and order measures, it was therefore on the side of the criminal. By the same token, several leading judges could be said to be on the side of the villain since they have opposed, or been highly sceptical about, many of these measures. It is nonsense to define being tough on law and order solely in terms of backing government crime Bills when many have been highly contentious within the legal world.

There is a serious debate about what government actions can help reduce crime, and about the balance between toughness and civil liberties. It is fair to claim that during the 1980s Labour did not put enough emphasis on punishing crime, as opposed to its social causes. Its record was patchy. Some big city Labour local authorities, though fewer than in the 1980s, have been hostile to the police. Even *then* the proper criticism was that Labour did not back its anti-crime intentions with actions, not that it was in any way on the side of the villain, as opposed to the victim. But to describe Labour *now* in these terms is a *grotesque travesty. It* fails to recognise the shift of approach since 1992 under, first, Tony Blair and, more recently, Jack Straw (who has personally tackled muggers).

Instead of the empty taunts of the past two days, politicians would be better advised to look at practical ways in which crime has been reduced and criminals have been caught. Despite the big rise in recorded crime since 1979, the Government deserves credit for some of its measures, which can be judged alongside Labour's recent suggestions.

John Major put the Tory case in *less hysterical terms in his* CPC Jubilee lecture last night. But even if his language was more restrained than his deputy's, there were *similar* flaws. There are legitimate questions about Labour's *past* record, but Mr Major's claim that a big philosophical gap exists with Mr Blair is unconvincing. The Labour leader accepts as much as the Prime Minister that crime is a matter of individual choice which cannot be explained away by social factors.

Mr Blair would accept two thirds of what Mr Major said about the nature of crime, punishment and the role of schools, though he would put more stress on community ties. In his own speech in Southwark Cathedral last night, Mr Blair talked about *personal responsibility*, individual obligations as well as rights, and the importance of children learning self and mutual respect and right *from wrong within the* family. Labour needs to spell out more what this means in practice. But the Tories will find Mr Blair an elusive target.

PETER RIDDELL

Blair plans inner-city homework centres

By Jill Sherman, Political Correspondent

A LABOUR government would set up a national network of centres where pupils could do their homework out of school hours, Tony Blair announced last night.

In a speech that focused on schemes to help raise standards in inner-city schools, the Labour leader said that many children lacked space at home to study. He also proposed new incentives for teachers and a fast track for bright pupils.

Labour has already laid *plans for a homework* contract that would be signed by parents. Primary school children would be expected to do 30 *minutes per day, and those in* secondary school 90 minutes.

But Mr Blair intends to ensure that this can be done in places where the television is not blaring in the background. Addressing local business and community leaders at Southwark Cathedral, he said: "I want to look at how we can organise and fund a national network of pre-school and after-school homework centres around the country, to ensure that throughout the population learning is not confined to school hours."

The centres, which would be based in schools, youth and community centres, or even empty residential flats in inner-city areas, would be supervised by retired people, voluntary groups or teachers. They would be set up by local education authorities, or individual schools, in conjuction with voluntary organisations.

Although Mr Blair hopes that in time every pupil would have access to a homework centre, the first are expected to be set up in inner cities. Party sources made clear that the *three initiatives he announced* yesterday were aimed particularly at improving inner-city schools, where standards are *often lower than elsewhere.*

His proposals follow Labour MPs' criticism of the standard of many schools in *inner London during the row* over Harriet Harman's decision to send her son to a grammar school. Earlier Mr Blair said that Labour had no intention of mounting "a vendetta" against Britain's 160 grammar schools. Last night he confirmed that he intended to set up a fast track in comprehensive schools to enable children of the same ability to learn together, irrespective of their ages.

ROBIN MAYES

Mr Blair and Labour's Hemsworth by-election candidate, Jon Trickett, left, at a school in the constituency yesterday

"This does not mean 12-*year-olds suddenly becoming* sixth-formers, but it does mean bright children being stretched instead of being *bored in subjects where they* have particular aptitude," he said. He also reaffirmed Labour's support for streaming children within the same age group for specific subjects.

Mr Blair outlined plans to improve teaching in inner cities by announcing incentives for teachers. Labour is expected to provide more opportunities for promotion for teachers prepared to work in the inner cities, and is likely to provide more places for its *new grade of advanced-skill* teachers in inner-city schools.

Sabbaticals "to help recharge batteries" would also *be given* to teachers working in deprived schools. "I want to see the best teachers contributing to the revival of our most difficult schools," he said. Head teachers will also be given incentives.

In a separate section, Mr Blair disclosed new plans to give housing tenants greater rights. Tenants should be involved in every stage of design, building and maintenance of housing estates. Budgets should be devolved to *estate level so that tenants* could organise their own repairs, he suggested. Developing his stakeholding theme he *suggested* that everyone should have a stake in housing, education, employment and the community.

He devoted much of his speech to the need "to reinvent community for a modern world". Painting a bleak picture of modern Britain, he said that the country lacked drive and common purpose and that people believed that fair play was a thing of the past.

"They believe that values of decency and tolerance are *being spurned. They see that a* culture of responsibility and mutuality is being eroded," he said. "I believe the loss of a *sense of community, of being* bound to more than a narrow definition of self-interest, prevents us realising our full potential as individuals.

"People are not separate economic actors competing in the marketplace of life. They are citizens of a community. Britain is simply stronger as a team than a collection of selfish players."

Leading article, page 15

Townend favourite to lead 92 Group

By Nicholas Wood

THATCHERITE Tories are preparing to retain their hold over the party's main backbench grouping.

Tomorrow they will nominate John Townend as chair*man of the right-wing* 92 Group in succession to Sir George Gardiner, who is stepping down after 11 years in the post. Mr Townend, 61, a critic of Government policy on Europe and the economy, is a close ally of Sir George, 60, whose conspiratorial manner has led ministers to dub him the "prince of darkness".

Despite rumours of a rival candidate from the "establishment Right", Mr Townend, MP for Bridlington, could win the chairmanship without a fight. The indications yesterday were that loyalists, who rallied strongly to John Major's side in the leadership election, were drawing back *from forcing* a contest.

They are understood to believe that a power struggle could deal a fresh blow to *fragile Tory unity* and that they stand little chance of halting Mr Townend, a combative Thatcherite who has powerful supporters among the hierarchy of the 92 Group.

Arrangements for an election will be discussed tonight at a private dinner open to all 105 MPs in the 92 Group. Six other posts will also be filled by a secret ballot of members, to be concluded on February 9. Nominations close on Friday.

Councils to close 'nuisance hostels'

By James Landale

LOCAL authorities are to be given tough new powers to shut benefit hostels *that* disrupt surrounding neighbourhoods, the Government announced yesterday.

John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, said that councils would also be given tougher powers to prevent new "nuisance hostels" opening. The move, announced in the Commons during the second reading of the Housing Bill, will go some way towards reassuring Tory MPs with seaside constituencies. Many say that the rising number of former hotels and guest houses being used as cheap bedsits is damaging the tourist industry.

Frank Dobson, Shadow Environment Secretary, condemned the Bill, saying it would do nothing to improve the living conditions of families forced to live in substandard housing.

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY in the Commons: questions to Deputy Prime Minister, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Overseas Development Administration, Public Accounts Commission and Church Commissioners. *Debate on Housing Bill*, second reading. In the Lords: debates on Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations; Hong Kong (Overseas Public Servants) Bill, second reading; daytime movements of abnormal loads on motorways.

TODAY in the Commons: questions to Environment ministers and the Prime Minister. Debates on record of privatised water companies; cuts in overseas aid; Police Grant Report (England and Wales); Scottish film industry. In the Lords: Chemical Weapons Bill, *second reading*; health and safety in farming.

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Brazilian and US firms to fund £120,000 Amazon expedition in footsteps of Colonel Fawcett

Mission seeks to unravel mystery of lost explorer

By Gabriella Gamini and Nigel Hawkes

A NEW attempt is to be made to solve one of the great mysteries of exploration, the disappearance of Colonel Percy Fawcett in the Amazon jungle more than 70 years ago.

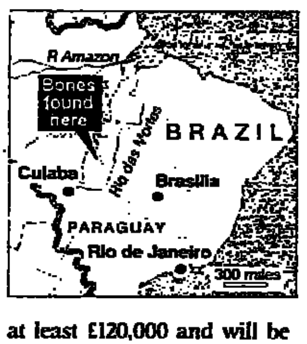
A 16-man expedition led by a New York banker and a Brazilian businessman is to set out in June to search for the remains of Colonel Fawcett, who never returned from a search for a "lost city" in the Mato Grosso with his son, Jack, and friend, Raleigh Rimell, in April, 1925.

Stories and legends about Fawcett abound, most of them highly implausible. The most likely explanation for his disappearance is that he fell among unfriendly Calapalo Indians who killed him and his companions. But numerous expeditions over the years have so far failed to find convincing evidence of any remains.

The new expedition is *headed by James Lynch*, a Chase Manhattan banker, and René Delmotte, an executive of Mercedes-Benz in Brazil. They plan to set off at the end of the rainy season in June, on or about the seventy-first anniversary of the last letter Fawcett wrote to his wife, Nina, and despatched by Indian runner.

Like Fawcett, the expedition will leave from Cuiaba, the capital of Mato Grosso. But while he rode out of town on horses and mules, the new expedition will be equipped with five cars and two boats. The plan is to retrace the steps of Fawcett and his companions along a 1,500-mile stretch of the forest which he described in his letters home.

"We want to find out what happened to Colonel Fawcett, whether he died at the hands of an Indian tribe or otherwise," Mr Lynch said. The expedition is expected to cost at least £120,000 and will be supported by donations from ten large Brazilian and US companies.



Colonel Fawcett on horseback, shortly before he set out on his search for a "lost city" in 1925

Fawcett, who was born in Torquay in 1867, caught the South American exploration bug when he helped the Bolivian Government survey its frontier with Brazil between 1906 and 1909. After serving with distinction in the First World War and winning the DSO, he resolved to return to the Amazon in search of a lost civilisation in the heart of the "green hell" of the jungle.

After his first attempt failed, when his companions fell ill, he set off again in 1925, with Indian bearers and guides. When his letters stopped, there was no immediate anxiety. He was an experienced man able to look after himself.

After a year of silence, however, concern grew. In 1927, a mining engineer reported meeting a white man in the jungle who showed no wish to return to civilisation. From this grew one legend: that Fawcett, disillusioned by his experiences in the war, had turned his back on England and resolved to create a new civilisation in the middle of Amazonia.

The same year, a search party led by Commander Dyott of the US Navy met Indians who claimed to have acted as porters for Fawcett. In one village, a child was found wearing a bright brass ornament which, on close examination, turned out to be the name plate from a packing case bearing the name of the London firm which had supplied Fawcett.

The conclusion was that Fawcett and his companions had been murdered, and their belongings stolen. But such a prosaic answer failed to satisfy the public, especially when Stephen Rattin, a Swiss trapper, emerged from the jungle in 1932 to report meeting a white man clad in skins in an Indian encampment. Rattin said that the man had told him he was Fawcett and was a prisoner of the Indians.

More recently, the anthropologist brothers, Orlando and Claudio Villas Boas, themselves Brazilians, have compiled a more plausible account of what happened. From conversations with the Calapalo Indians, they concluded that Fawcett had indeed been killed. According to the Indians, Fawcett was looking for gold when he ended up in their territory. Seen as a threat, he was clubbed to death by Izarari, a chief of the Calapalos.

"The Indians claim that they killed the colonel, his son and his assistant Rimell. They told us that Fawcett was buried under a tree and that the other two were thrown into a lake," Orlando Villas Boas said.

JOHN TOPHAM/ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Colonel Percy Fawcett, who disappeared in the Brazilian jungle more than 70 years ago, and Izarari, a chief of the Calapalos Indians of Amazonia; according to one account, it was he who clubbed Fawcett to death

Meanwhile, a coffin of bones found by the brothers in a Calapalo village in 1951 are undergoing new tests to see if they might be those of Fawcett. After their discovery, the bones were brought to England and examined by experts. They concluded that the leg bones were those of a much smaller man, while a dental plate that had belonged to Fawcett did not fit the jaw.

The coffin of bones was returned to Rio de Janeiro's National Museum. Orlando Villas Boas removed it from there in 1986 but later donated it to the Saô Paulo Museum of Anthropology.

Brazilian anthropologists are still trying to prove that the bones belong to Fawcett, and they are currently undergoing DNA testing. They will be compared with DNA from hair and blood samples from a grand-daughter of the explorer's, Catherine Fawcett, who lives in London.

Fawcett's own letters were used to support the notion that he had dropped out of society and was living a simple life in the jungle. "A man who has once sampled extreme simplicity of existence will seldom return to the artificial life," he once wrote. "The burden of it is not realised until it is laid down."

And this: "The English go native very easily. There is no disgrace in it. On the contrary, in my opinion, it shows a creditable regard for the real things in life."

Another explanation was that he had caught leprosy and preferred to die in obscurity, but that would hardly explain the disappearance of his son and Rimell. Death, by illness or violence, is by far the likeliest explanation.

Brian Fawcett, the explorer's son, examining the unidentified skull found in Brazil in 1951

US women break into life at the top

From Tom Rhodes
in Washington

THE glass ceiling has been not merely broken in America, it has been shattered, according to a new report which discloses that women now own a third of the country's domestic businesses.

Between 1987 and 1992, the number of companies owned by American women jumped 43 per cent, almost double the rate of growth for all firms during that period, and by 1994 the number of companies had risen to 7.7 million, an increase of 1.3 million on the previous year.

In its first report to President Clinton, the Committee on Women's Business Enterprise, in co-operation with the National Women's Business Council, said that firms under female ownership now employed 35 per cent more of the American workforce than the *Fortune* list of top 500 companies, and contributed more than $1.6 trillion (more than £1,000 billion) to the economy each year.

Chaired by Laura D'Andrea Tyson, the President's National Economic Adviser, the committee was established a year ago to ensure that women's issues were addressed at the highest level in the Administration.

David Silver, the author of *Enterprising Women*, said that by the year 2005, women would own more businesses than men.

☐ **London:** The extent to which British women have flexed their business muscle is still not fully documented by the statisticians. The Department of Trade keeps no figures, a spokeswoman said yesterday.

Mexico tells Britain to take business chances

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor

PRESIDENT ZEDILLO of Mexico, in a clear attempt to reduce the overwhelming influence of the United States on his country, called on John Major yesterday to urge Britain to seize the opportunities opened up by Mexican political and economic reforms.

In talks and a luncheon at Downing Street that focused largely on economic links between the two countries, President Zedillo outlined Mexico's long-term projects and the steps taken to stabilise the economy since the catastrophic collapse of the peso when he came to office a year ago. He hopes British financial institutions will underpin recovering investor confidence and boost investment in Mexico, and that the City will play a greater role in Mexico's affairs.

Mr Major spoke of the need for British business to play a larger role in Mexico's economy. Before meeting Mr Major, Señor Zedillo tried to allay British fears of political instability by giving assurances that a new, more democratic framework would be drawn up for Mexican congressional elections next year and that the central Government would do more to satisfy the demands of the poor peasants which have led to revolt by Zapatista guerrillas.

Señor Zedillo also told Mr Major that Mexico was now able to repay its short-term debts, that last year saw the fewest strikes for 20 years, that Mexico would continue privatisation and would do whatever was needed to protect its banking sector.

Guido Di Tella, the Foreign Minister of Argentina, also begins talks today with the Government on the vexed question of a fisheries agreement in the waters around the Falklands. The next round of negotiations will be held in Buenos Aires in two weeks' time at a meeting of the South Atlantic Fisheries Commission. Señor Di Tella is here to underline the importance of an agreement.

An agreement still looks distant: not only is the sovereignty of the waters in dispute but the two sides also differ on the assessment of the available stocks, the conservation measures needed and a unified regime for the start and end of the fishing season.

In the search for agreement, officials of both countries cite the way a formula was devised to allow the beginning of oil exploration in the same waters without prejudicing either side's claims to sovereignty in the Falkland waters. But fish stocks are limited and already there are disputes over the plundering of catches by outside fishing fleets, especially from Russia, and concern that the supply of valuable Illex squid may be dwindling.

Señor Di Tella, a frequent visitor to Britain, will meet Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, today. He is likely to be warned that unless and until a fishing agreement can be reached, President Menem is unlikely to be granted his wish to pay an official visit to Britain. The Argentine leader has made much out of his ability to repair relations with Britain, which are now, paradoxically, among the closest his country has with any Western European nation.

Zedillo: sees growing role for the City

The Princess Royal begins a visit to the Falklands today, three days after Señor Di Tella's daughter, her Swiss husband and four children left the Falklands after a week's private visit that was part of her father's charm offensive. The unusual visit by the Argentine visitors passed off smoothly and did not, as feared, cause offence to the islanders. Paula Gall said she and her family had received a splendid welcome.

☐ **Congress summons:** President Samper of Colombia has called Congress to a special session today to consider the charges against him relating to a scandal involving payments by drug traffickers into his election campaign in 1994 (David Adams writes). He is seeking a national referendum to let voters decide if he should resign.

Most observers say, however, that his decision amounts to a futile effort and moves are under way to find a dignified exit for the beleaguered President. In the past week Señor Samper has seen his political support evaporate after accusations by a close ally that he was directly involved in managing some of the estimated £4 million in drug money that was paid into his party's campaign coffers.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rifles given to released hostages

Sanaa: Yemeni tribesmen gave their 17 French hostages a rifle each and daggers as souvenirs before freeing them yesterday. The al-Aslam tribesmen also gave the mainly elderly visitors a tour of their eastern Yemen region.

The Government said security forces later arrested four tribesmen. Jean Jacques Abassin, 65, one of those held for four days, said: "We were treated like guests." He showed off his gift rifle. *(AFP)*

Saddam 'well'

Baghdad: President Saddam Hussein of Iraq, denying reports that he has cancer, said he was in good health and feeling strong enough to swim the Tigris river back and forth. Saddam is 58. *(Reuter)*

Hunger alert

Rome: World leaders must tackle hunger as a threat to global stability when they gather here later this year for an unprecedented summit on food, a senior United Nations diplomat said. *(Reuter)*

Cache details

Vienna: The US gave the Austrian Government details of secret arms caches, hidden in the country after the war to help to resist a Soviet invasion, and promised to remove the arsenals promptly. *(Reuter)*

Puppet state

Erfurt, Germany: The puppet Miss Piggy was "in police custody" here after being damaged during a break-in at an exhibition of 36 original Muppets. Two puppets, Ernie and Bert, are missing. *(AP)*

Gun gang slaughters eight in South African queue for jobs

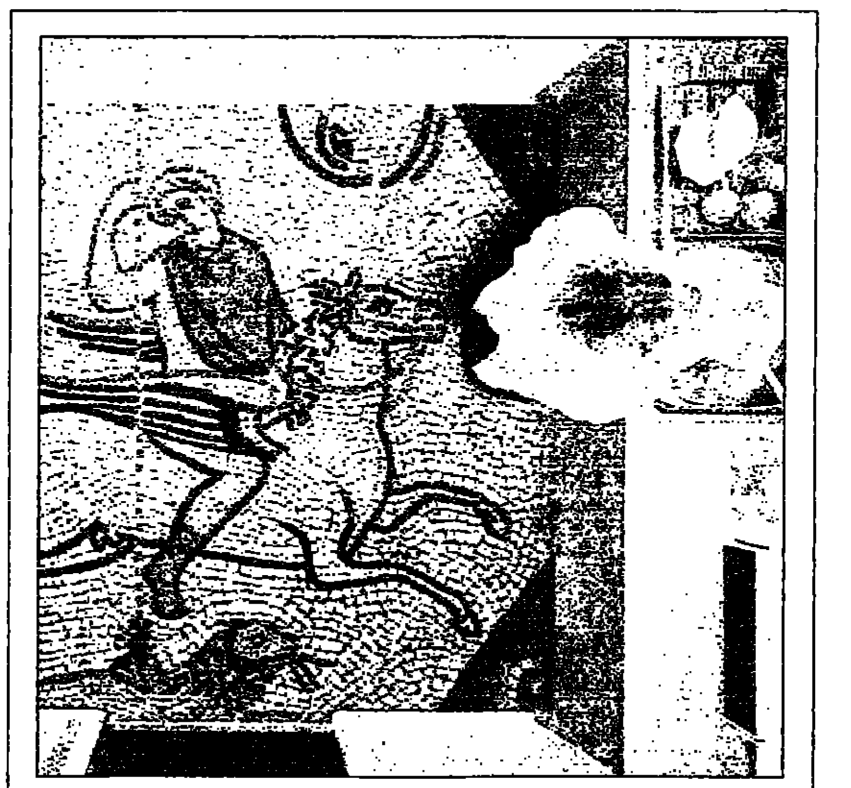
From Inigo Gilmore in Alberton, near Johannesburg

SOUTH Africa's ruling African National Congress has suggested that the slaughter by gunmen of eight people and the wounding of 24 outside a factory in Alberton, southeast of Johannesburg, yesterday may have been politically motivated.

According to the police, at least seven men armed with AK47 assault rifles and 9mm pistols fired on a queue of job-seekers outside the town's NF die-casting factory just before 3am. Witnesses said that more than 2,000 people had begun queueing outside the factory the previous afternoon to apply for 200 jobs when seven men arrived and pushed their way to the front. WHen people complained, the men produced guns and fired.

The motive has baffled the police. However, the attack was reminiscent of "third force" political violence in the countdown to 1994's democratic elections. The phrase "third force" has been generally used to express cocnerns that far right-wing members or former members of the security forces are fomenting violence in order to disrupt or prevent political change. The ANC said the attack was possibly aimed at undermining its efforts to bring peace to KwaZulu/Natal. But it may be that, with the official unemployment rate at 33 per cent, people have resorted to such measures to scare off competitiors for jobs.

☐ **Johannesburg:** Dr Budra Ranchod, Ambassador to the European Community in the 1980s, has announced that he is to leave parliament. It is unclear whether he will also leave the former ruling National Party.



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Porn publisher's empire running out of steam

By Quentin Letts
in New York

A FINANCIAL crisis has hit Bob Guccione, the publisher, pornographer and master of Manhattan swank. His *Penthouse* magazine has recorded its first loss, circulation has plummeted, the cover price has risen and he has reluctantly closed two other titles.

Mr Guccione, 65, denied that the banks have taken control of General Media, the publishing group he took public in 1994, but disclosed that he has considered selling *Penthouse* and may soon retire. His problems suggest a change of fortunes for previously lucrative "skin" magazines in the face of competition from video tapes and the Internet. Circulation of *Penthouse* has dropped to a million, down from 3.2 million ten years ago.

Mr Guccione said that advertising revenues were good, but with *Penthouse* the key performer in his company, he had little choice but to close two smaller titles, *Omni* and *Longevity*, shedding 40 staff. *Omni*, a science fiction magazine, had a circulation of 703,000, and *Longevity*, a health magazine, 358,000.

Since the launch of *Penthouse* in 1965, the medallion-wearing Mr Guccione, shirt open to the navel, has come to personify the soft-porn world. His house is one of the biggest in Manhattan, with a sunken swimming pool, marble floors, bodyguards and an art collection which includes work by Botticelli, Matisse, Picasso and Renoir.

His wife, Kathy Keeton, is president of General Media, which lost $7.6 million (£4.8 million) in the last financial year — its worst performance for 31 years. Mr Guccione may be facing the biggest crisis of his business life since his earliest days as a pornographer in London, when he acquired an out-of-date mailing list and mistakenly posted a promotional brochure for *Penthouse* to a collection of reputable, horrified subjects such as doctors, clergymen, schoolgirls and MPs' wives.

Mr Guccione, a former altar boy who once considered becoming a priest, said yesterday that he would sell *Penthouse* if offered the right money. "We had an offer already but it was too small," he said. He added: "Eventually, I'm going to put all this aside and take up painting full-time, which I believe is what I was intended for in this life all along."

Last year Mr Guccione drew $1.5 million in salary from General Media, while his wife was paid $500,000. To soothe investors, he claimed *Penthouse* was within five weeks of announcing a technical breakthrough that would allow it to charge Internet users for access to the magazine. He said he was unable to give details of the deal.

Clueless sleuths go back to school

By Ben Macintyre

HUNDREDS of private detectives assembled in Lyons to mark the opening of a "school for sleuths" designed to make the next generation of French private eyes more like Detective Maigret, and less like Inspector Clouseau.

There are some 1,200 private detectives in France, and the profession has recently expanded beyond its traditional role of spying on adulterers, as demand for industrial counter-espionage has increased. Private detectives are regarded in France as both glamorous and faintly ridiculous. Most are self-taught, a few end up on the wrong side of the law and many are merely incompetent.

The private detective college, which opened last weekend, is part of an effort to set standards within the secretive industry. With branches opening next month in Paris, Lyons and Montpellier, the school is offering a year-long course in shadowing a suspect, how to detect a telephone tap, photography and "respect for individual liberty".

The teaching staff will be made up of former detectives and retired policemen.

"Obviously not everyone can become a detective. What will be taught above all are investigative techniques," Roger-Marc Moreau, a professional detective, said.

However critics of the course for gumshoes say that the job boils down to common sense since, as Sherlock Holmes himself observed, the principles of detection are "elementary, my dear Watson".

Flash floods in France put 100,000 in danger

From Ben Macintyre in Paris

FLASH floods caused by torrential rain swept through the Hérault region of southern France yesterday, leaving at least four people dead and hundreds more stranded or homeless.

"I have never seen anything like it," said Francine Sénegas, Mayor of the tiny town of Puisserguier, where three people drowned. At least six more people were reported missing round the city of Béziers after three rivers burst their banks following a heavy downpour that began on Sunday afternoon.

Local officials said 6in of rain had fallen in less than 24 hours. They gave a warning that, with more storms forecast for the region, increased flooding would put up to 100,000 people in danger.

Inhabitants of Agde and Sérignan — two coastal towns east of Béziers — were told to leave their homes immediately. "A wave of water is going to descend downsteam," Bernard Monginet, Prefect of the Hérault department, said.

An evacuation operation was under way in Béziers yesterday as Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, and the Interior Minister, Jean-Louis Debré, flew to the area. "I am being kept informed on the situation hour by hour. All the necessary measures will be taken to combat the effects of the bad weather," M Debré said.

Three of the dead were from one family. A brother and sister, aged 10 and 12, and their mother drowned when their caravan was swept away.

The fourth victim was a 60-year-old man from the nearby town of Magalas, who died when his car was swept away on Sunday night.

M Juppé travelled to Puisserguier and stood before the coffins of the drowned children in the village church before holding a crisis meeting with rescue workers. The Prime Minister said emergency aid funds would be sent immediately to the most badly flooded areas.

Witnesses yesterday said a car containing several passengers had also been swept away as the Libron river overflowed.

More than 500 divers and rescue workers moved out hundreds of people threatened by rising water. A crisis centre was set up in the Béziers suburbs and by yesterday afternoon more than a hundred people had been airlifted or rowed to safety.

Rail traffic between Béziers and Narbonne was suspended after the track was flooded.

Witnesses reported seeing caravans carried hundreds of yards by the water and, west of Béziers, several houses were flooded to a depth of 4ft or more. Some motorists, surprised by the swiftness of the flooding, took refuge in trees and up telephone poles. One was saved by hanging on to the wing mirror of a lorry parked by his submerged car.

The meteorological station at Mount Aigoual in the Cévennes said January's rainfall will be the highest since 1896, when records began.

The massive downpour also caused flooding in Corsica, where eight people had to be rescued by helicopter from holiday bungalows.

France has been struck by a series of serious floods in recent years. Last year 16 people were killed. About 30 people were drowned in September 1992 after flash flooding in the area of Vaucluse.

French gloom, page 14

Cars litter Puisserguier's streets after floodwaters swept through, drowning at least four people and leaving hundreds homeless. Emergency aid has been promised to the region, where more than 6in of rain fell in less than 24 hours

Scientists and occultists baffled by Jura town's burning question

By Ben Macintyre

HUNDREDS of police, scientists, tourists and experts in the paranormal have descended on Moirans-en-Montagne, a small town in the Jura mountain range, after a series of apparently spontaneous fires that have defied logical explanation.

In the past three months no less than 11 fires have erupted in various parts of the town, killing two people. No one knows how they started but just about everyone has a theory, ranging from the scientific to the supernatural.

Jean-Pierre Berthet, the local magistrate, has called in a raft of scientific experts to try to explain what the 2,000 inhabitants of the town grimly refer to as the "phenomena", but without success. Arson has been ruled out by police. M Berthet conceded that the scientists had failed to find any "electrical, nuclear or magnetic anomaly".

The first "phenomenon" occurred on November 4, when a property belonging to Jean-Pierre Raffin suddenly burst into flames. This was followed by ten more fires, equally inexplicable, many in the same street. On January 20, Annie Raffin, a relative of the first victim, died when her home also burnt. A volunteer fireman, Gérard David, was killed while attempting to save her.

Laboratory tests on a fragment of melted pewter indicated the most recent fire had burnt at more than 1,300C (2,372F) and, still more bizarrely, witnesses claimed the dancing flames had pointed *into* the wind.

Electrical experts were brought in to check newly laid cable, but reported that the current was normal. Other scientists professed themselves baffled.

Strange and superstitious rumours have begun circulating in the town, including the view that Moirans-en-Montagne is being bombarded by laser beams transmitted by satellite, as well as the more old-fashioned, but equally unlikely, theory that the town is being victimised by pagan gods.

Emile Battista, a retired Marseilles fisherman and specialist in the occult, came to the town last week to give his expert opinion: an exorcist must be called in from the Vatican, he advised.

The nervous occupants of houses in Rue de Cares, where most of the fires broke out, have taken to leaving their homes at night.

Now a Paris scientist has come forward with a new theory. Pascal Bernard of the Institute of Global Physics told *Le Monde* newspaper that the spontaneous fires may be the result of small earthquakes releasing inflammable gases created by organic decomposition in caves beneath the mountains.

The Jura range is a seismically active zone, M Bernard points out, and a jolt was recorded in the neighbouring area some ten years ago.

That theory may appear far-fetched, but barring other hard scientific reasoning or a belief in the supernatural, it remains, in M Bernard's view, "almost the only reasonable hypothesis" to explain the mystery of the town that burnt.

Red Cross airlift to feed starving in Kabul

By Michael Dynes

THE International Committee of the Red Cross will launch an emergency airlift of 1,000 tonnes of food this week to relieve the besieged Afghan capital of Kabul where more than one million people are facing starvation.

Overland supply routes into the city have been closed by Mujahidin forces trying to topple the Government of President Rabbani. Random shelling has forced the closure of Kabul airport, leaving only Bagram military airport in the north open for supplies.

Afghanistan's warring factions may be on the verge of reaching a peace settlement, according to General Abdul Rashid Dostam, the country's feared Uzbek warlord. In an interview with *The Times*, he said leaders of the rival Mujahidin factions will meet in Pakistan next month in an effort to bring an end to the internecine fighting.

The Uzbek general turned politician, who controls 30 per cent of the country, 50 per cent of the population, and most of the country's gas and oil reserves, said he wanted an overall settlement, and did not want Afghanistan to disintegrate into "little pieces". Speaking through an interpreter, General Dostam said Mr Rabbani's Government was a government in name only. "We could finish off Rabbani's forces by forming an alliance with the other factions, but we are worried about the consequences that would have on the civilian population."

General Dostam said he has been engaged in negotiations with Taleban, the Pakistan-backed Islamic student militia, which has captured half of Afghanistan over the past 18 months. He insisted, however, that no military alliance had been forged between their two factions in an attempt to oust the Kabul Government.

"Most of the people in Afghanistan are Muslims," General Dostam said. "We want an Islamic government in Kabul. But we do not want a fundamentalist government."

Kabul: At least five people were killed and several wounded in opposition rocket attacks and a jet fighter bombing raid on the Afghan capital yesterday, security sources and an Afghan news service said. Witnesses said a warplane dropped bombs in the presidential palace area, but there were no immediate reports of casualties there. An earlier rocket attack on the palace had killed one person and wounded three. *(Reuter)*

Rabbani: described as a powerless leader

EU ministers dismiss British fears of monetary union crisis

From Charles Bremner in Brussels

BRITAIN'S diagnoses of crisis over European monetary union were dismissed by its partners yesterday as little more than wishful thinking that should not be allowed to unsettle the march to the single currency.

French and German foreign ministers joined the European Commission at a Brussels gathering, which came after a wave of public anxiety around Europe over EMU, in reasserting their confidence in the timetable and economic criteria for embracing the euro. "We are making all the necessary effort to make the date and we will do so," Hervé de Charette, the French Minister, said.

The French and Germans were especially irked by what their officials saw as troublemaking by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary. Outside the meeting, he tweaked his colleagues' nerves by noting the uncertainty among senior statesmen over the 1999 target date for launching EMU. "I doubt if this can go on day after day, week after week, without some serious credibility problem," he said. The countries which insisted they could meet the deadlines would have to do "something stronger" than simply make speeches, although he declined to say what that should be.

Continental officials depicted Mr Rifkind's remarks as a reflection of the Government's desire to see the EMU project collapse well ahead of the need for any painful British decision about exercising the opt-out. "This is wishful thinking," Werner Hoyer, the German Deputy Foreign Minister, said. "There is not the slightest question of postponing anything. We are sticking to the [Maastricht] criteria as well as the timetable."

Germany is to announce measures to boost the economy and reduce unemployment, which has begun rising with the economic slowdown of recent months, casting doubt on the monetary project. Herr Hoyer said German moves were being co-ordinated with France. "We are working very closely together," he said. Cold water was also thrown on Britain's talk by the Brussels Commission. A spokesman for Jacques Santer, the President, brushed off as nonsense British media reports of secret plans to postpone the launch of the euro.

The Monetary Commissioner, Yves-Thibault de Silguy, said there was no need to talk about delays because the test for entry was still two years away. "I think that barring economic or political cataclysm, France, Germany and a majority of countries in the Union will be ready at the end of 1997 for the transition to the euro." Talk of delays was dangerous, he said.

However, ministers in Brussels for their first council of the season sounded a common note on the need to combat unemployment across the Union. Governments are worried that the number of jobless, now 20 million in the European Union, will climb without measures to create work.

Anatole Kaletsky, page 27

Bonn tax cuts deal

Bonn: The squabbling parties that make up Germany's coalition yesterday patched together a face-saving compromise to cut tax rates, thus overcoming a crisis that threatened to bring down Helmut Kohl's Government (Peter Bild writes). The solidarity tax, a 7.5 per cent surcharge imposed on income and corporation tax after the country's unification in 1990, to finance eastern Germany's reconstruction, is to be cut to 5.5 per cent from July next year.

The Free Democrats, who hold the balance of power in Bonn, had threatened to withdraw support unless the Government committed itself to phasing out the surcharge in 1997. The concession was won from the dominant Christian Democrat Union and Christian Social Union grouping.

WALT DISNEY PICTURES

Snow White: Disney is protecting her image

Snow White's impure past

Los Angeles: A starlet's risqué bedroom scene has forced the Walt Disney Company into drastic action to protect the name of Snow White (Giles Whittell writes).

Monica Keena, 16, stars in Disney's forthcoming *Snow White in the Black Forest*. However, she was previously in the low budget *Ripe* complete with a bedroom scene described by a source as "tastefully shot" and with "no nudity". Disney executives are anxious that such a scene could tarnish Snow White's image and are trying to buy up *Ripe*, the *New York Post* reported.

Reformers break links with Yeltsin

From Thomas de Waal in Moscow

RUSSIAN reformers who have doggedly supported President Yeltsin since 1991, including many of his liberal Kremlin aides, have finally renounced their backing this month.

Sergei Filatov, one of Mr Yeltsin's closest aides until he was sacked this month as his Chief of Staff, admitted in an article in Saturday's edition of *Izvestia* that, after the brutal handling of the hostage crisis in Dagestan and the sacking of several reformers, Mr Yeltsin had lost the support of the Russian middle-class intelligentsia.

Mr Filatov said he was "disturbed" by the direction in which the President was heading. But he argued that Mr Yeltsin still deserved support, because to abandon him would mean "pushing him into the embrace of the security structures," the kind of drift into isolation that helped to undermine the former President, Mikhail Gorbachev, before the August 1991 coup.

But four prominent liberals, who resigned last week from the Presidential Council, a high-profile group of experts that used to advise Mr Yeltsin, say their split from the President is now total. "In the last two weeks everything has caved in," said Otto Latsis, the main political commentator with *Izvestia* and the first to resign.

The final straw for the four men was the bloody assault on the village of Pervomaiskoye ten days ago, in which many hostages died. "I do not know what there was more of," said Yegor Gaidar, the man Mr Yeltsin made his acting Prime Minister in 1992, "incompetence, cruelty or lies." He said his abandonment of the President was "final and irreversible".

Mr Yeltsin's behaviour is an obvious reaction to last month's parliamentary elections, when the Communist Party topped the poll and Mr Gaidar's party collected less than 4 per cent of the vote. He has sacked the minister in his Government most associated with economic reform, Anatoli Chubais, and has already started promising handouts to pensioners and students. But many believe it is a desperate and misguided strategy.

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Family thwarted in moves to put Du Pont into care

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

RELATIONS of John du Pont, the multimillionaire murder suspect captured after a 48-hour armed siege, repeatedly tried to commit him to a mental hospital before he allegedly shot an Olympic wrestler.

Mr du Pont's sister-in-law, Martha, described him as "a gun that was waiting to go off". She said: "We've been trying for years to get him help, but you just can't get someone committed anymore. People like John are very savvy and even cunning. They talk to the doctors and talk their way out of things." In the last two years, she said, the eccentric Mr du Pont "really began losing it" and he had been "just wild" in recent months.

Neighbours of Mr du Pont criticised local authorities for not noticing how his mind slowly unravelled after the 1988 death of his mother and speculated that he would have been shown very different treatment had he not been a friend and honorary member of the local police. Anne Knorr, a local resident, said: "When you're rich, you're eccentric. When you are poor, you are stark, raving mad."

Mr du Pont, 57, has been charged with first-degree murder of Dave Schultz, 36, a leading wrestler who lived in the grounds of Mr du Pont's 800-acre estate in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania. When captured on Sunday by a police SWAT team, he said: "OK, OK, don't hurt me! What are you doing? I am the Dalai Lama." He claimed that he was a "head of state" and "equal to the tsar".

Acquaintances yesterday detailed a slow deterioration in his mental health. Jack Cuvo, a wrestling pupil of Mr du Pont, recalled that his patron sometimes claimed that the walls were talking to him. At other times he would mistake his horses for cars. Mr du Pont believed that geese were trying to place a spell on him, would fire balls of newspaper from his Civil War cannon, spoke of his fear of assassination, and would wander around his grounds in a dressing gown, firing a machinegun at passing sparrows. "He was weird," Mr Cuvo said. Prosecutors were said to be "considering" seeking the death penalty for Mr du Pont, but lawyers for the pharmaceuticals heir are expected to claim that he was not in possession of his senses when Mr Schultz was shot. The dead man's widow, Nancy, who appeared at a press conference with her children, Alex, nine, and Danielle, six, said she had "no idea why John committed this senseless and brutal killing".

During the two-day siege of Mr du Pont's house, police marksmen regularly had him in their telescopic sights. Mr du Pont, who was himself armed with a spectacular arsenal, could be seen roaming through the 19th-century-style mansion. The marksmen regularly told their commanders, "I have him", indicating that they had him square in their sights, but the order to shoot was not given. The siege ended when telephone negotiators persuaded Mr du Pont to leave the house to repair a boiler, whereupon he was seized by 15 heavily armed policemen.

Many of the police who took part in the siege knew Mr du Pont personally, as he instructed officers in small-arms fire at a shooting range he built on the estate, and became a volunteer member of the force. He had also bought equipment for the local station.

Commentators yesterday said police spokesmen during the siege had been unusually respectful about Mr du Pont, emphatically calling him "mister" and allowing him to get a night's sleep, with even a wake-up telephone call on Sunday morning. John Halota, 65, a retired policeman, recalled: "You've got to realise, he trained a lot of these guys."

In answer to complaints that the police had not acted on complaints about Mr du Pont's bizarre behaviour, which included armed threats to his wife and another wrestler, the former district attorney, William Ryan, said that he personally had not seen any paperwork about such complaints.

Dole's tax challenge rejected by new rival

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

STEVE FORBES, the multimillionaire who has rocketed to second place in the race for the Republican presidential nomination, has rejected rivals' demands that he should make his tax returns public.

Mr Forbes said the tax issue was simply a ploy to divert attention from his controversial call to replace the various levels of income tax with a flat tax of 17 per cent for anyone earning more than $36,000 (£24,000) a year.

Robert Dole, the Senate majority leader whose status as front-runner is being eroded by Mr Forbes, released his income-tax returns last week and challenged other candidates to do the same, specifically targeting Mr Forbes, the publisher of *Forbes* magazine whose worth is estimated at $450 million.

In their attacks, Mr Dole and others say Mr Forbes would benefit personally from his flat tax because all capital gains and investment profits would be tax-free. Middle-class voters, meanwhile, would lose their tax deductions for home mortgages and charitable donations.

The agitation about Mr Forbes reflects his surge in the polls. In Iowa, where Republicans hold the first big presidential preference vote in two weeks, Mr Dole's support has fallen to 26 per cent from 40 per cent a few months ago, while Mr Forbes has emerged from nowhere to 18 per cent.

STUART FRANKLIN/MAGNUM

Shanghai chic: young people stroll on the revitalised Bund but high heels will draw a rebuke or a fine from elderly street committee members

Vigilantes rule in city of 'Seven Noes'

***James Pringle**, in the last of his two-part series on Shanghai, finds that, despite a changing skyline, old attitudes linger on*

THE plane trees have been cut down and the old Whangpoo Park — where supposedly there once was an offensive sign that read "No dogs or Chinese" — has seen its size reduced further. The space has been taken up by a soaring Monument to the People's Heroes with Communist revolutionary figures sculpted into the façade.

A beautification campaign has raised the mile-long walkway on the Bund, the famous waterfront along the Whangpoo River with the neo-Grecian banks and Western trading houses testifying to the prewar era of Shanghai's greatness, or notoriety. The Bund is now more accessible and the cleanest stretch of public property in China.

One dare not light a cigarette here, for bossy, elderly members of a local street committee will impose a 10-yuan (90p) fine on the spot. The other day a couple of these vigilantes berated a young woman for wearing high heels on the new Bund walkway.

A current Shanghai campaign against the "Seven Noes", including no littering, smoking, spitting, swearing, pushing and arguing, is designed to enhance "spiritual civilisation"; so a mother scolds her spoilt "little emperor" son for discarding a plastic cup. But the Whangpoo and Soochow creek, which meet at the Bund, remain as polluted as ever with raw sewage.

In the 1970s, when I first saw the Bund during the later stages of the Cultural Revolution, an 8ft-high slogan outside the Peace Hotel, formerly Sir Victor Sassoon's Art Deco Cathay where in 1929 Noël Coward wrote *Private Lives* while recovering from flu, read: "Long live invincible Mao Tse-tung Thought."

The clock tower on the old British-built Customs House chimed the *East Is Red* every half-hour, and the former racially exclusive Shanghai Club, with its 33-yard mahogany Long Bar where taipans took their ease, was a hostel for Communist Party cadres.

Today the clock's ordinary chimes are drowned by traffic. The Shanghai Club houses a Western fast-food outlet and the famed Long Bar has gone. The former imperial houses on the Bund are dwarfed by the Oriental Pearl Television Tower, across Whangpoo in the Pudong development zone.

In 1972 the Peace Hotel was a dismal place; the lobby was icy and staff slumped dozing over the reception desk. The hotel, with its pyramid roof, has since been restored with a gymnasium and a business centre; but a jazz band of grumpy-looking elderly men playing *When the Saints Go Marching In* made it sound like a dirge.

In early 1972, strolling along the Bund with a Shanghai-born government "minder", I said he must be proud Shanghai girls seemed — without make-up and despite padded clothes — "quite pretty". His cheeks turning red with Maoist indignation, he stormed: "That is nothing to be proud of. I am proud of the fact that the Communist Party of China had its birth in Shanghai." But the foreign visitor on the Bund today is just as likely to receive a nod from a heavily made-up beauty, whispering an offer of assignation for a price, just like in decadent prewar days.

Old style: the Peace Hotel band plays jazz sedately

Troops 'sold' to colony

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

CHINA'S supporters in Hong Kong are going all-out to persuade the colony's residents that units of the People's Liberation Army units to be stationed here next year should not remind them of its role in crushing the 1989 Peking uprising.

The Communist press yesterday devoted many columns to this friendly garrison, estimated at 5,000 to 8,000, pointing out that members are chosen for height, good looks, excellent education — both officers and men — skills in English and Cantonese, ability to drive on the left, and for a disinterest in business.

The selected soldiers were visited across the border yesterday by some of the Hong Kong Preparatory Committee, the 152-member group intended to design the new government. Major-General Liu Zhenwu, garrison commander, said the troops would — with permission from Peking — be used to "maintain public order and stability", and for disaster relief.

Clinton likely to reduce garrison in Okinawa

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON AND PEREGRINE HODSON IN TOKYO

PRESIDENT Clinton is expected to reduce the American military presence on Okinawa after a series of rapes which have inflamed Japanese opinion and threatened to undermine bilateral relations.

During a state visit to Japan in April, Mr Clinton is likely to announce that both the amount of land occupied by American forces and the number of their exercises should be diminished. There also may be a small reduction in the 47,000 troops stationed on the island, which constitute more than 75 per cent of United States bases in the country.

The Administration, facing strong criticism from the Okinawans, is negotiating a compromise it hopes will maintain a balance in the region at a time of highly sensitive relations between America, China and North Korea.

The decision comes in the wake of an alleged rape of a minor by a US serviceman and the trial of three other servicemen in connection with the kidnapping and sexual assault of a 12-year-old Okinawan girl last September. Prosecutors in the second case yesterday demanded 10 years' jail for the three men, who bound up the girl "with tape like some parcel".

The fallout from the attack on the girl, and the subsequent rape of an American girl, is causing great concern in Tokyo, where pressure for the withdrawal of all American forces is growing. The Hashimoto Government fears that the pressure in Japan, combined with a "bring the boys home" mood in Congress could cause large reductions in US troop numbers.

On Friday, Takakazu Kuriyama, former Japanese Ambassador to the United States, gave a stark warning that the dispute over the US bases in Okinawa could derail US-Japan relations. In New York, Japanese women put a full-page ad in *The New York Times* calling for removal of all US bases in Japan, citing numerous crimes by US servicemen there.

Hashimoto: talks with the US Ambassador

Some Okinawans fear that any American withdrawal may injure the island's economy, estimated to generate more than $1 billion a year from the US military.

Japanese officials are keen to make certain revisions to the Status of Forces Agreement, the key part of the 1960 US-Japan Security Treaty under which American forces are stationed in the region.

Delegates from Okinawa left on Monday for the United States to urge the US government officials and legislators to reduce bases in Okinawa. Their mission will further embarrass the Government in Tokyo, which is trying to patch together a compromise to satisfy the Okinawans while maintaining a credible US military presence.

In Tokyo, the Prime Minister, *Ryutaro Hashimoto*, met the US Ambassador, Walter Mondale, to seek US cooperation in solving the problem of US bases in Okinawa.

☐ **Tokyo:** A court yesterday sentenced a US marine serving in Okinawa to 11 years' jail for killing his Japanese girlfriend with a hammer. *(AFP)*

Leading article, page 15

Sex scandals sink US Navy's reputation

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

FOR an institution which has fought no major sea battles for 50 years and can proudly boast not an admiral killed in combat since 1944, the United States Navy must consider the last 18 months to be the most damaging in living memory.

In that time, five members of its top brass have been lost to sex scandals, charges of indecent assault have reached unprecedented levels, and the Pentagon has been forced to hold "sensitivity seminars" in an attempt to introduce the gentleman culture into the American officer class.

The most recent incident involves Admiral Richard Macke, until last month the commander of the Pacific Fleet. His less than diplomatic view of the rape in Okinawa of a 12-year-old schoolgirl by three American servicemen cost him his command. He now faces a potential court-martial for allegedly using military aircraft to fly from Hawaii to the US on visits to various girlfriends.

If these were isolated episodes, the US Navy could perhaps point a collective finger of guilt at one man, but the service that spawned the romantic image of *An Officer and a Gentleman* is looking decidedly tarnished.

More than four years after the "Tailhook Scandal", the Las Vegas orgy that claimed the job of Lawrence Garrett, then Secretary of the Navy, the US Navy is seemingly unable to shake a post-Vietnam reputation for misogyny.

Since 1992, the department has logged more than 1,000 new cases of harassment and more than 3,500 charges of indecent assault, from groping to rape, a figure nearly three times the national rate in the United States.

Excerpts from a new book, *Fall From Glory*, published by *Newsweek* yesterday, says sexual abuse is so embedded in the Navy that it may be impossible to root out. "Sailors have always been known for their bawdiness, but officers, at least, were supposed to be gentlemen. Then came Vietnam," says the book. "The Vietnam vets, and the exploitative sexual attitudes they developed in Asia, arrived home in the Seventies just as women were beginning to move into the ranks."

At the annual Tailhook convention of naval pilots in Las Vegas in 1991, 83 women said they were sexually abused.

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Beware the Rip Van Winkle syndrome

What daytime sleepiness may be trying to tell you

Not all patients with sleep problems complain of insomnia. Some are more concerned by excessive sleepiness during the day. But since disturbed nights are one of the causes of daytime catnaps, unwelcome tiredness and loss of attention are conditions which coexist.

Falling asleep at inopportune moments does not only occur during boring speeches or in front of the television set. The male habit of falling asleep after sexual intercourse, for example, causes considerable resentment in their partners.

In some cases there is a medical excuse. The man may be suffering from excessive daytime sleepiness, of which one of the causes may be narcolepsy. Narcolepsy is a syndrome marked by sleep attacks and cataplexy, the sudden loss of muscle tone. Other features such as sleep paralysis and hypnagogic hallucinations may be present, but can also be caused by many other conditions. Over the past ten years it has become increasingly apparent that narcolepsy has been too readily diagnosed, with the result that other causes of excessive daytime sleepiness have been ignored.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

Professor David Parkes of the Maudsley Hospital in Denmark Hill, south London, who is an international expert on sleep problems, says: "Thank heavens that more care is being taken before the diagnosis of narcolepsy is made.

"The diagnosis of narcolepsy in the past has sometimes been disastrous. For instance, some patients with sleep apnoea have not been diagnosed correctly and, therefore, have not had the treatment which might have helped them with potentially lethal conditions. Instead they have been labelled lazy or bored.

"Others who have been given a diagnosis of narcolepsy discover it can have far-reaching social consequences."

Although changes in the EEG (brainwaves) pattern of narcoleptic patients when they have a sleep attack are characteristic, and although all patients with proven narcolepsy have a particular tissue type (HLA-DR 2), experts believe the surest way of making a diagnosis of narcolepsy is to reveal a history of both excessive daytime sleepiness and cataplexy. In cataplexy there is a sudden loss of muscle tone, to all intents and purposes a general paralysis, without any loss of consciousness. Given the right stimulant, which is usually elation, extreme happiness, fear or anger, the patient just crumbles, rather as if an electric toy has suddenly been turned off.

Attacks of cataplexy can be precipated by sporting triumphs. Textbooks tell the stories of athletes who had a cataplexic attack when they hit a much-needed six at cricket, or played a match-winning stroke at tennis. One of my patients suffered complete paralysis without loss of consciousness during a boat race.

Narcolepsy is most often confused with the excessive daytime sleepiness which is the result of the sleep apnoea syndromes. These patients repeatedly stop breathing for short periods while asleep. Usually, but not always, they are heavy snorers who snore more and more loudly until there is a pause, during which they stop breathing altogether. After a few seconds breathing is normally resumed and with it the snoring.

The cycle may be repeated 30 or 40 times a night and next day, not unnaturally, they are over tired, prone to sleep at inappropriate moments, and are a potential danger to themselves and to other people.

Usually patients with sleep apnoea are overweight, drink too much alcohol or smoke too many cigarettes. But sometimes in otherwise fit older people the tissues at the back of the throat and in the nasal spaces become flabby. These patients have an increased liability to strokes, heart attacks and accidental death, and deserve active treatment.

The treatment of excessive daytime sleepiness depends on its origins. If it is the result of narcolepsy, drugs of the amphetamine type are useful, as are some of the newer 5HT reuptake inhibitors. These, including some which have been available for many years, reduce the incidence of cataplexy and sleep paralysis.

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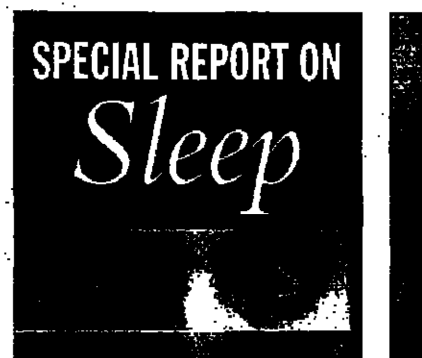


SPECIAL REPORT ON *Sleep*

American experts say we could all use more hours' sleep. **Jeremy Laurance** casts an alert eye over the evidence

SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY

Late to bed, early to rise: poor sleepers can improve the quality of their sleep by restricting the time available for it, doctors say

EVERYBODY, given the opportunity, can sleep more than they normally do. This is not just a question of having a lie-in at weekends. Research has shown that if people spend an extra two hours in bed beyond their normal time, they will sleep on average for one extra hour. Does this not prove that we are all sleep-deprived?

American scientists think that it does. They argue that we get less sleep than we need and would be more alert and energetic if we slept more. British experts concede that we could sleep more — just as we could eat, drink and have sex more — but say this proves nothing about how much we need.

The dispute, which has broken out in the pages of the journal *Sleep*, demonstrates how hard it is to win agreement on an activity about which everyone has an opinion.

Napoleon prescribed six hours' sleep a night for a man, seven for a woman — and eight for a fool. Margaret Thatcher was admired for her capacity to cope on five hours a night although this is not unusual in people in their sixties. We need less sleep as we get older.

Power is a stimulant that reduces the need for sleep and powerful people tend to dismiss it, as these examples show. People whose work is demanding but fulfilling find they can cut their sleep without ill-effects. Almost everyone has noticed times in their life when things have been going well and they have needed less sleep.

For most people, most of the time, seven or eight hours a night is the rule. But even this may not be enough, according to Dr Michael Bonnet of the Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Centre, Ohio. He and colleagues say in the current issue of *Sleep* that people slept longer a century ago, most of us enjoy a lie-in, and tests show we are more alert as a result, especially in the early afternoon when people tend to feel drowsy.

In response, Professor Jim Horne of Loughborough University says he has looked at the evidence and found it not to be true. "There is no evidence that the Victorians slept longer. I suspect many people slept less at the turn of the century because they worked longer hours and had poorer sleeping conditions."

'Power is a stimulant that reduces the need for sleep'

In support of Professor Horne, Dr Chris Idzikowski, chairman of the British Sleep Society, cites an article on sleeplessness published in the *British Medical Journal*. The hustle and bustle of daily life drives us all to insomnia, it said. The year was 1894.

For Dr Idzikowski, the transatlantic difference of view has more to do with medical investment than scientific research. Sleep deprivation is a major preoccupation of Americans and a nationwide network of sleep disorder centres has sprung up to help them. "If they can create the impression that people are not sleeping as much as they should it helps to get people into the centres," he says.

Dr Idzikowski says that asking how much sleep we need is like asking how fast we should breathe. It depends on what we have been doing — and is mostly outside our control. A sprint for the bus will be followed by panting as sleeplessness one night is followed by unconsciousness the next.

The greatest enemy of sleep is worry about the lack of it. Most people who lose sleep will recover it within 24 hours, and find it possible to cope in the meantime. Overcoming the fear of not being able to cope is one of the keys to conquering insomnia.

Professor Horne, director of the sleep research laboratory at Loughborough and Britain's most widely quoted expert on sleep, conducted the experiment in which people who spent an extra two hours in bed slept on average for one extra hour. "Everybody can take more sleep but do we need it? We eat things when we are not hungry and we drink more than we need. Just because we can sleep more doesn't mean we need to."

Professor Horne concedes that the extra two hours in bed did make people more alert in the afternoon. But he says there is a better way of countering post-lunch sleepiness.

"If you do experience an afternoon dip, instead of losing two hours' productive wakefulness in bed, the best thing is to take a ten-minute catnap at lunch. It is the most efficient way of dealing with it.

"There is a basic amount of sleep that we all require. Beyond that it is a very enjoyable time-filler, but it is not essential."

Within the animal kingdom, sleep is governed by metabolic rate — the speed with which energy is burnt up. Elephants, with a low metabolic rate, sleep for around three and a half hours while bats sleep for 15. There is, however, no evidence that busy human beings sleep more than lazy ones.

The length of sleep does not tell us anything about its quality. "The quality is extremely subjective. This is something that bedevils sleep research," says Dr Chris Hanning, director of the Sleep Disorders Clinic at Leicester General Hospital.

One way of improving the quality of sleep for poor sleepers is to restrict the time available for it. Doctors frequently find people who complain of insomnia are going to bed at 10pm and getting up at 8am. By staying up till midnight and setting the alarm for 7am, they can dramatically improve their sleep.

There is a simple test of whether or not you are getting enough sleep, widely ignored by those who complain of sleep problems. It is whether you feel sleepy during the day. "That is the acid test. If you are awake and alert you are obviously getting enough sleep," says Dr Hanning.

Sleepiness is not the same as tiredness. Sleepiness is caused by lack of sleep and solved by taking a nap or going to bed. Tiredness is marked by loss of interest, feeling miserable and having difficulty getting going. It is often attributed to poor sleep but is more likely to be caused by depression.

How to get some rest without counting sheep

For those having trouble nodding off, there is now a bewildering array of pills, potions and alternative remedies available to aid restful sleep.

Traditionally, weary fathers and mothers gave sleepless tots a malted drink at bedtime, relying on the reputedly sedative qualities of **hops**. A dash of whisky in milk is an old staple, as are warm honey or camomile tea. Recently however, over-the-counter remedies have increased in popularity and pharmacy shelves reflect our appetite for more instant herbal and non-herbal sedatives.

Medinex, a liquid sedative, and **Nytol** and **Sominex**, which are both taken in tablet form, are antihistamine based, after scientific researchers realised that the drug, traditionally used for hayfever and colds, caused drowsiness and could therefore be used as the main ingredient of a sedative. "These remedies are good at relieving temporary sleeplessness but should not be used for any length of time," Sharon Buckle, a pharmacist at Boots's headquarters, says.

Counter sales of herbal remedies — which contain extracts of plants with traditionally restful properties such as valerian, passiflore, hops and humulus, many of which have been used for centuries — have also increased in the past couple of years. **Natrasleep**, **Somnus** and **Quiet Night**, which are all taken in tablet form, are popular buys for sleep searchers and contain some or all of the above.

ALTERNATIVE SLEEP REMEDIES

A popular way to aid restful sleep is by the use of herbs

Others have turned to acupuncturists, trained herbalists, aromatherapists and psychologists. Some former insomniacs swear by the power of **relaxation exercises**. One of many devised by Jack Goodman, a London psychotherapist, involves visualising yourself moving down a staircase. As you take each step, repeat the words "dreamy, drowsy, heavy, sleepy". At the bottom, repeat the words until the power of suggestion pulls you into sleep.

Yoga is also said to be a great sleep aid. Judy Smith, a trained Iyengar teacher at the Maida Vale Yoga Institute, says deeper breathing exercises enable more oxygen to be sent to the brain, thus improving the quality of sleep. "Certain supported yoga postures, which stretch the body and nourish the brain, are also good for insomnia," she says.

Body rhythms are also buzz words for insomniacs. In 1991 Leon Lack, an Australian psychologist, discovered that shining bright lights at insomniacs who persist in waking in the middle of the night can reset their body clocks and help them to sleep longer. Strong bands of light, similar to those used by sufferers of SAD syndrome or "winter blues", shone in the early evening, trick the body into thinking it is still daylight and encourage you to sleep further into the night later on.

Herbalists often see insomnia or disturbed sleep as a symptom rather than a problem in itself. They will therefore offer remedies according to individual complaints such as stress or depression. However, insomniac potions often include **wild lettuce** (remember Beatrix Potter's flopsy bunnies who became soporific in a bed of lettuce?), **passiflore**, **humulus**, **camomile** and **lemon verbena**, all of which traditionally have sedative qualities, as have extracts of **catnip** and **skullcap**, **marjoram** and **nutmeg**.

Aromatherapy oils are also a popular remedy. **Lavender** is perhaps the best known, but **orange blossom**, **sandalwood** and **geranium** essential oils, either added to the bath or dropped on to the pillow, are reputedly effective somnolents. Christine Stewart, a herbalist, says that many hospitals prefer to burn lavender oil in wards rather than give out sleeping pills. In Tibetan medicine, a traditional cure for sleeplessness is to add two to three drops of ginger essential oil into a base oil such as almond and rub it into the soles of the feet before bedtime.

An old Chinese remedy for insomnia is to use a pillow containing the mineral **gypsum**, which is likened to hops in its therapeutic qualities.

Chinese medicine, which centres around the balance of Yin and Yang energy in the body, uses a complicated series of herbs in combination to treat problems such as insomnia.

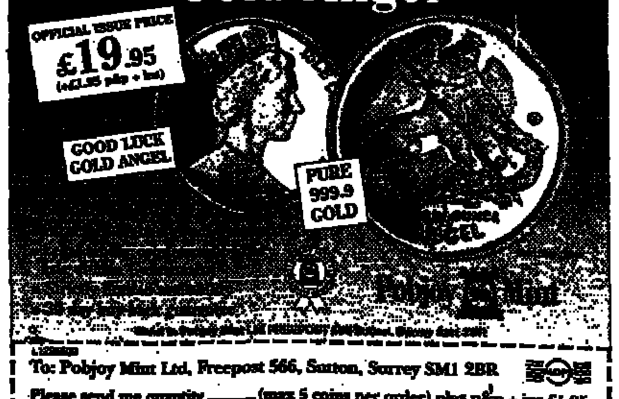
Jonathan Clogstoun-Willmott, from the Edinburgh Natural Health Centre, says Chinese belief has it that insomnia usually derives from a deficiency of Yin, or calm energy, in the body. Chinese medical practitioners use a combination of treatment herbs, messenger herbs (to help the treatment on its way) and balancing herbs to treat problems. For insomnia, these might include an **asparagus** derivative, a traditionally blood balancing herb, the root of **Solomon's seal** to clear the lungs and stomach, or lily bulbs to help the lungs.

Some insomniacs find **homoeopathic medicine**, which uses the principle of like treating like, beneficial. It has a complicated diagnostic system but sleep treatments may include **nux vomica** for insomnia generated by overwork and **sulphur** extracts for light sleepers. A trained homoeopath should be consulted.

Others swear by **acupuncture**. Angela Farrant, a London-based acupuncturist, says practitioners also see insomnia as symptomatic. "We look at the energy pathways of the individual and see where they are blocked. Often it is another problem causing sleeplessness but a course of acupuncture, using relevant points on the body, can relieve the problem and therefore the symptoms," she says.

But perhaps one of the most effective cures for the curse of sleeplessness was suggested in a letter to a national newspaper nearly two decades ago. The weary reader advised fellow insomniacs: "Try repeating the words, 'I'm a night watchman, I'm a night watchman' over and over," he wrote. "You will drop off in no time . . ."

KATHRYN KNIGHT



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Ready for the Tarantino remake of *Macbeth*?

Why bother to create a new film or television idea when you can endlessly recycle an old one? **Joe Joseph** gets an attack of déjà vu

Perceptive people often ask talented but struggling novelists: "If you're really so smart, how come you spend years writing one single novel when, at any bookstore, you could hand over £6.99 and buy a novel that has already been written by someone else, *thus saving two whole years of your own life*?"

This wisdom has hit Hollywood like a revelation. It has suddenly realised how much sweat you can save by getting others to do all the hard, creative work for you. This is why *Sabrina Fair*, made memorable by Audrey Hepburn and Humphrey Bogart in 1954, has just hit our movie screens again as *Sabrina*, starring Julia Ormond and Harrison Ford.

British showbiz has caught the bug, too. Hence the appearance of Paul Merton on television in brand new remakes of Galton and Simpson's *Hancock's Half Hour*.

The disease is spreading. Arnold Kopelson, who turned the TV series of *The Fugitive* into a movie, now wants to remake Hitchcock's *Dial M for Murder* and *Strangers on a Train*. Demi Moore has her eye on the Bette Davis classic *All About Eve*. Robin Williams is regurgitating *La Cage aux Folles* as *Birdcage*. Sharon Stone and Isabelle Adjani are starring in a new cut of *Les Diaboliques*.

Warren Beatty and Annette Bening have already remade a forgettable hash of *An Affair To Remember*. Even Marcel Carné's film of *Les Enfants du Paradis* will resurface tonight at the Barbican, as a play directed by Simon Callow and performed by the Royal Shakespeare Company. Why?

Maybe the showbiz world has merely become so ecology-minded that it has descovered recycling. Or maybe, as Dorothy Parker noted, the only "ism" that Hollywood believes in is plagiarism. Either way, as far as cultural enjoyment goes, most of these remakes are about as exciting as watching flatworms mate.

"If there is a more turgid movie all year than Sydney Pollack's *Sabrina*, I hope I don't have to see it," wrote one Sunday paper critic. "Miraculously, Pollack made Billy Wilder's light comedy leaden, like a chef turning a meringue into a bread pudding." In America, it was worse: "Remaking it," snapped one Californian reviewer, "is about as necessary as redesigning the Chrysler building or recording a hip-hop version of Mahler's Fifth Symphony."

The reason Hollywood plumps for remakes is because it believes there is less risk attached: if audiences liked it once, then hell, they might well like it again. Faced with green-lighting a $40 million budget for a remake of a Hitchcock classic or a first-time script from an unknown petrol-pump attendant in New Jersey, the studio boss opts for the former. You have two minutes to pitch a story in Hollywood. Selling a story is easier if you can say: "This movie is like X," and easier still if you can say: "This movie actually is X". By sprinkling this pitch with some awe for the industry's giants, you can reclassify the project as a cinematic homage.

Julia Ormond in *Sabrina*

The remarkable thing is that film vaults are rifled in spite of the fact that most critical and box-office evidence suggests that financial fortune favours the brave. Original scripts — *Pulp Fiction*, *Seven*, *Forrest Gump*, *Lion King* — have been the big earners in recent years.

The Hollywood recycling factory — a sort of real-life version of the movie *Groundhog Day*, in which TV weatherman Bill Murray is condemned to relive the same day over and over again — wouldn't be so bad if Hollywood were not the main arbiter of cultural life today. Its malign déjà-vu influence has spread. We can see it in the Forties fashions that have just been paraded up and down the catwalks of the Paris shows, and in the Sixties revival of everything from Beatlemania to lava lamps.

It comes as little surprise that wild-child Tarantino has become the latest movie-maker to twig that if you're going to remake something, you might as well pick the best: Shakespeare. What more could Hollywood want than a story that has riveted audiences for 400 years? Tarantino has his eye on *Macbeth*.

You can already imagine John Travolta and Samuel Jackson in the roles of Macbeth and Macduff, discussing what they call a McDonald's quarterpounder with cheese in France. The script will only need slight retuning to Tarantino pitch:

Macduff: Woah, some goddamn sonovabitch has taken out our royal master.

Lady Macbeth: Numero Uno dead? You're kidding me, right? Jeez! In our house? Under our own goddamn roof? There's no way the boss is gonna dig on this.

Can you bear to wait for the premiere? I can, too.

Old father time

HOW COME more men are choosing not to have children until they are in their forties and fifties? Obviously because the earlier years of a man's life are busy with more intellectually enthralling experiences — like realising how easy it is for a chat about Proust and the power of memory to become so stimulating that, within a very minutes, every man in the pub is taking part in a bloody fistfight about who scored the winning goal in last year's Cup Final.

But, as Cary Grant and Charlie Chaplin found, being a pensioner parent has more going for it than you might at first imagine.

For example, grandparents spend half their evenings and weekends babysitting for their grandchildren. Men have realised that if they delay starting a family long enough, they will still spend their evenings as 60-year-olds changing nappies, but at least they will have had 40 years of freedom beforehand.

Being an older parent means that you will probably be better off, financially, than you would have been as a father at 22. This means that you and your young family can enjoy the comforts that cash can buy: so when you fly to the Caribbean on holiday, you will be able to afford club class seats for yourself, leaving it up to the air hostesses in economy to keep the children amused on the eight-hour flight to St Lucia.

Having long since lost your own teeth, sucking up the leftovers of a jar of "turkey and winter vegetable dinner" is also a more appetising prospect than it would be if you were 30 and hankered for steak.

While watching old videos of *Watch With Mother* when you are 22 is merely depressing, watching them at 46 is called cultural nostalgia and thus becomes a fit subject for dinner-party talk with other 46-year-old fathers.

And finally a mature parent, realising that the world is a brutish place and that life is challenging enough, is less likely to name his daughter Fifi-Trixibelle.

Julia Llewellyn Smith talks to three mothers faced with a choice over Down's syndrome

The baby dilemma that won't go away

When the midwife arrived on her doorstep, Julie Cope was four months pregnant and excitedly preparing for the new baby. She was totally unprepared for the shattering news she was about to hear. Gently, the midwife explained that the results of a routine blood test showed that there was a higher than average chance Mrs Cope was carrying a child with Down's syndrome.

"I was in shock," says Mrs Cope, 35, a classroom supervisor. "When I took the test I didn't take it seriously. It was just routine. Then suddenly I was being told that I had a one in 130 chance of a baby with a defect. All I could think was 'there's something wrong with my baby'."

Modern medicine has brought women more choices than ever before, choices which, rather than reassuring us, can bring responsibility and fear. Most women think they would be fools to turn down a test that shows if they are carrying a child with abnormalities. But those who want this extra choice must realise that they may be letting themselves in for more serious tests and weeks of worry as they wait for the results.

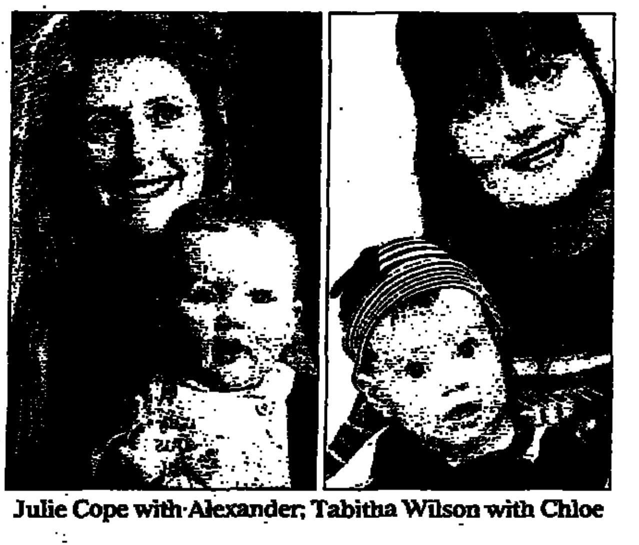
Tonight on Channel 4, *The Decision* follows four pregnant women who must make these choices. Mrs Cope, who appears in the programme, had had a serum screening test (a blood test), offered by most health authorities, which identifies women with a higher than average risk of having a Down's child.

Once, only women over 35 were asked if they wanted to test for Down's: now, any pregnant woman has this choice, a logical step given that two-thirds of Down's babies are born to women under 35.

One woman in 20 who take the serum screening test will be found to have a higher than average risk. She must then quickly decide if she wants an amniocentesis (to remove and test the amniotic fluid in the womb), which can definitely diagnose Down's, but which carries a one in 100 chance of causing a miscarriage.

Of the women who have an amniocentesis, one in 60 will be carrying a Down's child. She must then choose whether to have the baby or, as the vast majority do, to terminate.

"The whole thing made me quite ill," Mrs Cope says. "If I had the amniocentesis I risked a miscarriage, but if I didn't I was left with all this uncertainty. The hospital gave me excellent counselling, but they couldn't tell me not to worry, because there was a tiny chance that I did need to."



Julie Cope with Alexander; Tabitha Wilson with Chloe

After two days of agonised decision-making, Mrs Cope chose the amniocentesis. "It wasn't for me, because even if the baby had had Down's, I would have wanted it. But my husband felt he needed to know. He's a policeman and has a very stressful job. He couldn't bear the thought of waiting until the birth.

"I was at greater risk of having a miscarriage as a result of the amniocentesis than of having a baby with Down's. But still I felt that I had no choice but to go through with it."

The result showed no abnormalities and a few months later Mrs Cope had a healthy son, Alexander. "I went through a great deal of unnecessary worry," she says. "I would never have those tests again and I would not recommend anyone else to have them either."

Gill Barnes, the producer of *The Decision*, says: "Many women go through needless agony as a result of these tests. They have been bonding with the child they are carrying and suddenly they have to detach themselves, to try to stop feeling anything for it, in case an abnormality is detected and they decide to terminate."

'I felt I had no choice but to go through with it'

Even women whose results show negative cannot relax. Serum screening tests are only 60 per cent accurate and can provide false reassurance.

Tabitha Wilson, 29, took the tests five years ago, when she was pregnant with her daughter, Rosie. She learnt she had a one in 1,200 risk of a Down's child. Rosie, now four, was that one in 1,200.

"They don't stop to tell you what they are doing, and what the results will mean," Mrs Wilson says. "I was foolishly certain that everything would be fine and I went on blithely through pregnancy. When Rosie was born I went through a long period of anger that the system had let me down."

When Mrs Wilson became pregnant again last year, she knew that she was likely to be carrying another Down's baby. She also knew that she could not cope with another handicapped child. "We love Rosie so much and we would not be without her, yet she does need a lot of attention, which another child with special needs would take away. Then there were the needs of my husband; the strain of having another Down's child would have been too much for him to bear."

Despite these fears, Mrs Wilson refused to have any blood tests, opting only for a detailed scan, a view which amazed many people.

"As far as I was concerned the tests were meaningless and I didn't want an amniocentesis because of the risk of miscarriage. I had to fight all the way through for the doctors not to give me tests."

She says: "One doctor told me: 'So you will be having the tests, seeing you have a handicapped child already.' I said 'No, I won't,' and he looked up in horror and said 'But of course you must! You can't have two handicapped children!' They treated us like a statistic, they hadn't found out about our circumstances. When I gave birth to a healthy daughter, Chloe, the relief was enormous."

ADRIAN BROOKS

Sharon Gillett with husband, Dean, and daughter, Kelly: "I didn't want to have a test"

Sharon Gillett also chose not to have an amniocentesis, even though her blood test showed that she had a one in seven chance of a Down's baby. "Everyone was shocked that we didn't want to know," says Mrs Gillett, 42. "At first the hospital put pressure on us to have an amniocentesis, but then they honoured our thoughts and opinions.

"Hearing that we had a one in seven chance was like a bombshell. But my husband and I had discussed the pros and cons and we'd decided that Down's babies were lovely. Whatever the result, we wouldn't have terminated and we weren't prepared to risk the miscarriage.

"I didn't want to know in advance, because one woman with a Down's child told me that knowledge had robbed her of her pregnancy. We decided to enjoy ourselves, to put all worries to the backs of our minds but to find out as much as possible about Down's, so we would be prepared for anything."

Mrs Gillett gave birth to a healthy daughter, Kelly. "When she arrived, we never asked if she was OK, we were so excited we never gave a thought to it."

Every health authority has a different policy on antenatal tests. Some offer them routinely and free of charge; others make women under 35 ask, and pay for them. Professor Nicholas Wald of St Bartholomew's Hospital, who pioneered serum screening tests, says that he expects all hospitals will eventually offer them as a matter of course.

The tests will also become increasingly accurate, although they will never be able to identify every woman carrying a Down's child. "Women must understand that even if they are identified as being at a low risk, they are still not in the clear," Professor Wald says. "The Royal College of Obstetricians recommends that all women who take the tests are made aware of this.

"Screening does not reduce anxiety, it creates it," he says. "It is not intended to reassure you, in fact it will almost certainly have the opposite effect. You have to accept that if you want to reduce the chance of having a baby with Down's, you will have to take the cost. I think in the end most people do want to feel they have that choice."

● The Decision *is on Channel 4 tonight at 9pm.*

INSIDE SECTION 2
Beneath the skin of the new South Africa: Athol Fugard on tonight's British premiere of his new play, Page 37

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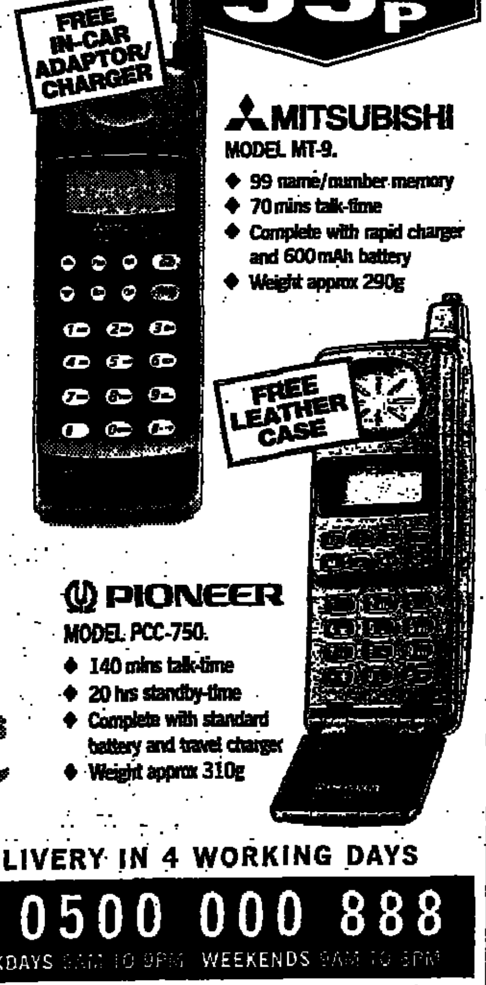

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Selection without rejection

Magnus Linklater on the basis of Scotland's educational success

Political fallout from the Harriet Harman affair has begun to settle on an area where school selection is a forbidden concept: Scotland. Here the idea that education should be equally accessible to all is universal, performance of school-leavers a matter for self-congratulation, and the merits of the comprehensive system are widely extolled. Here, it is claimed, Ms Harman would have had no need to exercise parental choice. Scottish education, as the late John Smith often proclaimed, is said to be the best in Britain, and his successor, Tony Blair, looking round his Shadow Cabinet colleagues, would find no cause to doubt it: George Robertson, Gordon Brown, Robin Cook, Donald Dewar, Tom Clarke — every one is a product of an education system used by all save a small minority.

True? Possibly, but only up to a point. Why, otherwise, should a Scottish Office minister have felt the need to announce last week that he was setting up an inquiry into the management of Scottish schools, with particular reference to selection? Raymond Robertson, MP, said that he was asking his inspectors to look at "the respective merits of mixed-ability classes, setting and streaming. It will not be considering selection into schools but rather the use of selection within schools". His inquiry is probably justified. There are no grounds for complacency. Scotland has every bit as great a problem with crumbling schools and crowded classes as England. Parents still apply for places outside their catchment areas, or move to where there are better schools; there has been little attempt to root out bad teachers; resources are strained, and now, with the reorganisation of local government, hundreds of teaching jobs are at risk.

Fewer are educated privately, but more go to university

Nonetheless, no one (least of all Mr Robertson himself) would seriously argue that there should be a return to an overtly selective system. It would be political suicide. The commitment to a universally available education goes deep, and dates back to the landmark Scottish Education Act of 1872, which offered every child the means to proceed from the parish to the burgh school and thence to university. Today it is still the case that nearly 40 per cent of Scottish pupils go on to higher education, compared to England's 30 per cent — and the gap is widening. What is more, there is very little snobbery about fee-paying schools, save perhaps in the Muriel Spark sense in Edinburgh, where the superiority of certain establishments is a matter of fierce debate. Only 4 per cent of the Scottish population is privately educated, compared to twice that proportion in England.

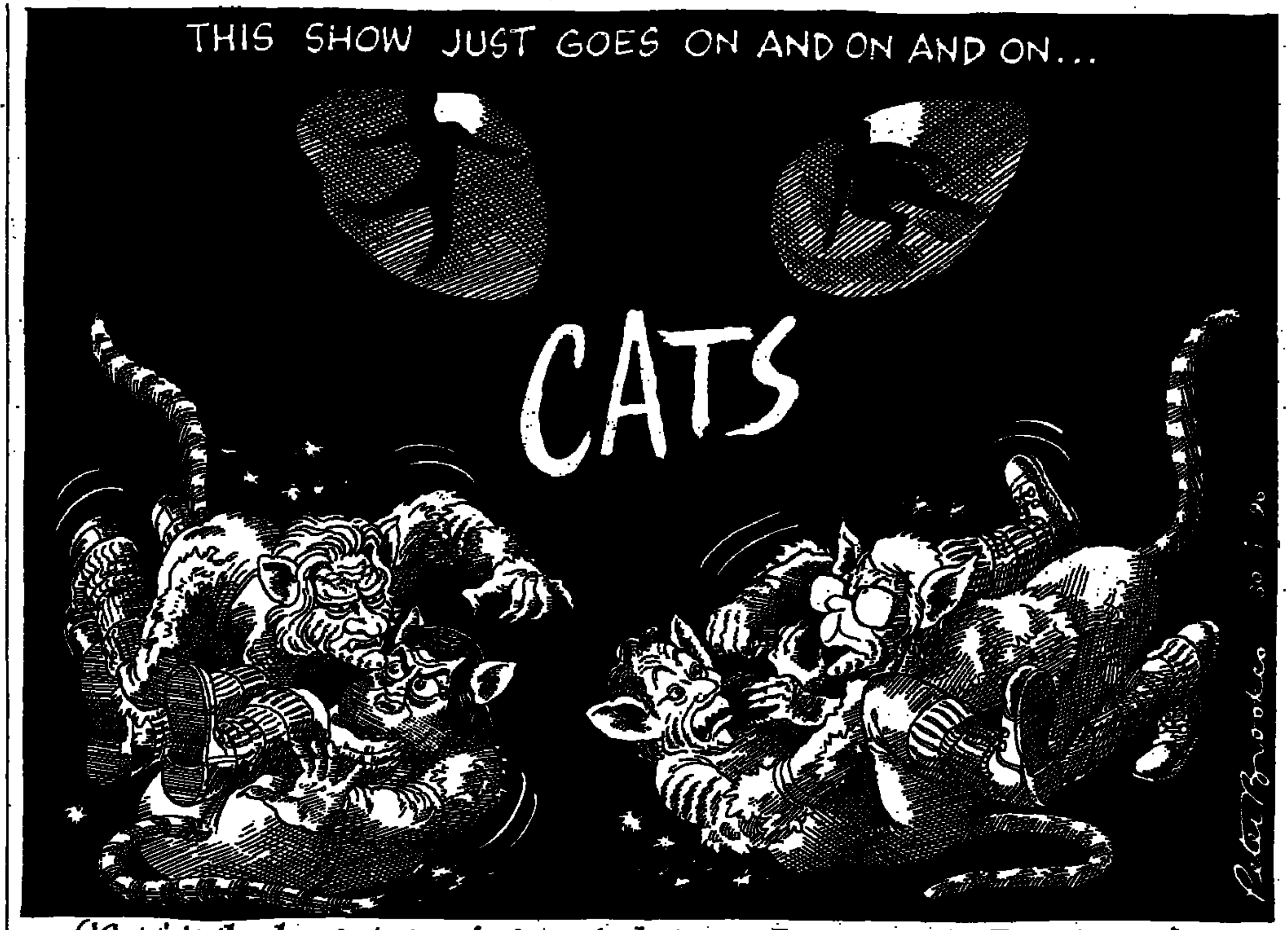
Far from being a dirty word, the term "comprehensive" is a matter of some pride. Not so long ago the headmaster of an Edinburgh fee-paying school boasted that his establishment was genuinely comprehensive because it offered as many assisted places and scholarships as possible to those who could not afford to pay.

Parents who can pay frequently choose the nearest state school in preference to the private one, and those making their way up a career ladder will find it no disadvantage whatsoever to claim a background at Bearsden Academy or James Gillespie's, rather than, say, fee-paying Fettes or Glenalmond. It is perhaps for this reason that when the Government announced its "opt-out" policy, offering schools the chance to deal directly with the Scottish Office rather than with their local authority, just one school in the whole of Scotland came forward. That has since risen to two, with another possibly in the offing — but it has hardly been a headlong rush.

It would of course be absurd to suggest that there are no differences in standards between state schools in Scotland. There are serious worries about low academic performances, truancy rates, and all the problems associated with urban education. But the gap between best and worst is smaller than in most English cities, and it is interesting to note that when appointments fall vacant, head teachers move easily between the lowest and highest performing schools. In anticipation of the changes that will take place when local government reforms come in this year, an association of heads has been formed to ensure that there is support for struggling comprehensives.

The real irony of the Scottish system is that despite what a former Scottish Secretary, Walter Elliot, called "a heritage of democratic intellectualism", selection lies at the core. A highly flexible internal procedure is operated by the teachers themselves. "Setting" and "streaming", which grades pupils according to ability, is inherent in the new 5-14 programme which guides pupils from the primary through to the secondary system. It allows them to join any one of five different levels for different subjects, particularly for English and mathematics, but it does not consign them forever to one particular stream. Inevitably, it means that testing, which has aroused such opposition south of the border, is a basic part of the Scottish system.

So although Scotland boasts a fair and egalitarian approach to education, it is in some ways nearer to what the Tories would like to see in England than the system that Labour claims it wishes eventually to introduce. Spotting the brighter pupil and helping him or her to forge ahead is central to it. And if Mr Blair, who himself went to Fettes, wants to know more about it, he could ask Messrs Brown, Cook *et al*. All of them are products of the highly selective system which pre-dated comprehensives in Scotland. All were educated in the kind of place Ms Harman would be absolutely delighted with.


THIS SHOW JUST GOES ON AND ON AND ON...
CATS
Peter Brookes 30.1.96

('Cats' is the longest-running musical ever in London or on Broadway...)

A Juliet from Braintree

Britain has so little to offer Sarah Cook that her marriage at 13 is no surprise

In a haze of sentimentality at new year, millions of us watched the BBC dramatisation of Rumer Godden's novel *The Peacock Spring*. It deals with an English schoolgirl in India, daughter of a British official. Dismayed by his sordid manoeuvrings to pass his mistress off as her tutor and by the racial snobberies, she befriends the under-gardener. They elope; the full weight of the Establishment is deployed to get her back, terrify her young man into abandoning her, and force an abortion. The child turns on her father with the timeless accusation of youth to age: "We had something beautiful, and you have made it ugly." In soft focus, with an edging of Raj nostalgia, she carried our sympathy all the way, and never mind the age of consent.

How curious, then, that while we wallowed in this variant on the Romeo and Juliet story, Sarah Cook of Essex, aged 13, was living it. Since October, indeed, she has been living with the family of Musa Komeagac, a Turkish teenager, in the small town of Kahramanmaras. Since her not-quite-legal "wedding", she has shared a tiny flat with the family, with little privacy or comfort. She has covered her head, kept Ramadan, and spent the days helping her mother-in-law, Esma, with housework and learning the rituals of Islam. Three months on, she insists she is happy. And, poignantly, the big lumpish girl has told the world that in Britain she felt ugly but in Turkey she feels beautiful because she is loved. Teenagers in her home town blithely confirm to reporters that "everyone was horrible to her because she was fat and had ginger hair".

Sarah went on sweeping, learning to pray, making love and feeling beautiful for long weeks unmolested. Her headmaster went to the social services, who confronted her parents; before the "wedding", it is reported, they had decided to do nothing as long as Musa's parents undertook to make Sarah do her schoolwork. But now the issue has escalated into what E.M. Forster called "telegrams and anger". Musa is in prison for statutory rape, Sarah is a ward of court, the two Governments are sending one another tense little messages, and the headscarved bride is hugging dear old Esma and kissing the Koran in public defiance of the lot of them.

Faced with this extraordinary situation, in which a stout but masterful child deliberately casts aside home, family, education, culture and even Christmas Day, we British did what we do best: we gobbled with indignation. Sarah's age was the most obvious target. It is, of course, acceptable in our culture for teenage magazines to instruct 11-year-olds how to perform oral sex, and for 13-year-olds to be put on the Pill without parental knowledge. But this was different. Some early commentators blamed Sarah's situation on the "sexualisation" of our children and the bombardment of sleazily alluring child-woman images — which are indeed, any fool can see, loathsome.

But such attacks falter when you consider the strict religious and social code this particular child has embraced, and her explicit rejection of the groovy, sexy and druggy teenage world which in any case had always found her — fat, ginger-haired, squinting — rather beneath its notice. Whatever Sarah Cook has embraced, it is not a life of unbridled licentiousness.

Libby Purves

The gobbling, however, became more intense when her choice of bridegroom was considered. The words "unemployed Muslim waiter" have been deployed again and again as if they were a string of insults. Poor boy: he was employed when Sarah met him, and who can blame a seasonal tourist-trade worker for not being busy in January? As for his religion, the sense of creepy horror in newspaper descriptions of Islamic life has been unrivalled since — well, since Jemima Goldsmith married Imran Khan. Then, the papers wailed that Jemima would have to give up her life of decolleté dresses and nightclubs, and she demurely said that she didn't mind.

Now, there have been shocked reports of Turkish television being "meaningless to a girl whose favourite show was *Neighbours*," and headshaking pieces saying that girls of 13 ought not to be taking love seriously, but "listening to E17 and practising kissing in the mirror". "Take her off to Top Shop before it's too late," advised one paper. The less frivolous said: "Sarah has thrown away her life chances." This child, the consensus has it, should be back at her school desk in Braintree. And, given that her rather dim-sounding parents agreed to the escapade, many opine that she ought to be in council care.

What a bleak ending that would be to a youthful dream! Home to Britain; home to more contempt for not looking like Kate Moss, home to a Gradgrind education in a faltering and joyless system, and to the patronising patience of child "experts". Home, perhaps, to unmarried motherhood without the support of the Turks who have become her true family. Home to countrymen who have so far given her little indication that they understand the brave — if rash — romanticism that made her break out of the system and declare herself, at 13 years old, alien to the dismal culture we have offered her.

Yet it is Britain which has failed her, not Turkey. It is easy to be 13 in Britain today and have seen nothing but the tawdry, no hint of splendour or spirituality. C.S. Lewis saw this coming when he described Mark Studdock in *That Hideous Strength*, a man without either peasant shrewdness or aristocratic tradition, without either classical or scientific education, a "modern" and a sociologist, in whose mind "not one rag of noble thought, either Christian or Pagan, found a lodging". We are a nation of Studdocks now. If you do not have a family who expose you to good books, high culture and travel, or pass on a religion with old and beautiful scriptures, you are hard pressed at 13 to know where to look for inspiration.

If you live in a blighted atmosphere of sullen, failed materialism; if your folk traditions are long lost, your education is wearyingly focused on paper qualifications and your teachers are disillusioned; if your nation's nominal religion is a timid and dilute irrelevance, your local history concreted over and even the stars are invisible beyond the sodium glare of night-time in the Sainsbury's car park where the Braintree kids hang out — then where, Juliet, can you look for what you need? Even if you look for love, you find it has been packaged and declared suitable only for those who fit the tight, unforgiving image of modern beauty. If you look for religion, some unforgiving cult may snap you up and feed you barren sawdust.

So when you go on holiday and find a blaze of warmth and rooted tradition and Muslim courtesy, a young man who says he loves you and a family that takes you to its bosom with songs and dances, what can stop you turning, like a sunflower, towards the light?

Even her parents were dazzled. Much patronising comment has been passed about the way that the Cook family came back from their first real foreign holiday in a daze. "He seemed to be really into it, this Turkey place," sniffs Mr Cook's brother. "He was constantly talking about how good it was out there and how he'd like to pack up and move." Unlike Spain, Turkey has not yet lost its innocence or its willingness to welcome outsiders. Even package tourists are not yet corralled into Costas with English-style pubs, away from local life. The Turks are hospitable and curious: a few years ago, travelling with two small children, we found ourselves solicited by a boy called Ishmael to walk up a mountain and see his Granny. So we did. Granny made us flat bread in her hands, over a hot stone; Ishmael's sister showed us how she spun yarn on a spiked ball, and they all laughed at our baby as she stared out their goats. We paid a few pence for the bread, but that was never the main point; they were just being sociable, and they blessed us as we parted. Meeting Musa's family, the Cooks trusted them with an immediacy of response which they were probably not in the habit of feeling back in Braintree. In our culture, after all, we are constantly warned against trusting anybody.

Romantic, unrealistic? Probably. And on balance I wish that somebody had been able to deflect Sarah Cook from her adventure, because it will plainly end in tears whoever wins. But I also wish it was not so shamingly obvious why a teenager from Britain should wish that she belonged in Turkey.

Ennui and the French

Woodrow Wyatt on the paralysis of Chirac's France

Unusually, the snow was falling heavily in Paris last Friday evening. The slipperiness of the pavements matched the febrile mood of worry and helplessness now affecting France. It was accentuated in the Forte hotel I stayed in, where the staff reeled at Granada's intention to auction them — and the lift broke down.

There is a feeling that President Chirac keeps changing his policies because he cannot see a way through the financial and emotional crisis. France's balance of trade with the world is favourable, but it is bought at the expense of rising unemployment, which is now approaching 13 per cent. The internal deficit is advancing steadily beyond £40 billion. This is due to years of and cosseting of state employees and overspending under socialist governments. In large parts of the country, up to 43.5 per cent of youths under 25 are unemployed. There is a backlash against immigrants, illegal or otherwise, mainly from Algeria. Two to three hundred cars are burnt in cities throughout France every night in mindless protest.

The Finance Minister, M Jean Arthuis, whom I met briefly at Vincennes on Sunday, was confident as he gave his views on television on the Prix d'Amerique, France's great trotting race, which attracts far more betting than any flat or jumping horse race. But there is general agreement that his Government's handling of the strikes against cuts in pensions for civil servants and state industrial employees was disastrous. Many French railway workers retire at 50 with a pension of more than 70 per cent of full pay. More than 350,000 former rail employees or their dependants are now receiving pensions, whereas only 182,000 are at work. The Government pays £2.67 billion of the £3.6 billion annual rail pensions bill.

The proposal of the Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, that rail and other state workers should work for 40 years before becoming eligible for full retirement benefits, as people in the private sector do, provoked last month's three-week strike, which paralysed the country. In a climbdown, M Juppé withdrew his proposals, but he still plans to cut costs in state health and pension programmes, which is likely to produce a week of union protest in February. If the Government's attempts to slash what amounts to social welfare spending had succeeded, it would have been good in itself. But the chief purpose was to prepare France to meet the Maastricht requirements for the single currency.

As my charming neighbour at dinner the evening before the Prix d'Ameriques remarked, "We depend completely on Germany." "After all those wars in which Germany so often defeated you and we so often helped you?" I inquired. "The memories of the battles you won against us are more bitter than the wars with the Germans," she said.

Though there is considerable appreciation of John Major's brave defence of France's nuclear tests, the French correctly see the British as unlikely partners on the road to a single currency and a federal united states of Europe. "You are surrounded by the seas and look more to America than Europe," my elegant neighbour said. "They have outgrown us, but they are our children," I replied. "They have inherited our laws and our style of democracy and we speak the same language."

At the same table, former Mitterrand ministers mingled with Chirac ministers. I suspect that they all agreed with my neighbour on the left and the clever lady on my right, the wife of a prominent minister in the former regime, that the British are not *communautaire*.

Oh dear, why do we like the French so much more than they like us? Perhaps it has a little to do with might-have-beens. The French are fascinated by monarchy. They ask endlessly about the Queen and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, for whom there is enormous respect and admiration. They delight in gossip about the Princess of Wales, the Duchess of York and minor royals. But being more adult than us in such matters, they see no threat to the Crown from their wayward activities. French Presidents are apt to regard themselves as kings. They are accompanied by more panoply, and simultaneously by more privacy, than our Sovereign and her family.

Temporarily France has lost its customary self-assurance. Several times over the weekend I was pessimistically asked whether I was hopeful about France's future. My answer was that the strength of French exports shows how productive and ingenious they are. The Government has had a setback, but it should not be dismayed. It should try and try again to reform the unions and the crippling social welfare system. It should forget its pride over the *franc fort*: the present rate of exchange is not sustainable, just as our position in the exchange-rate mechanism was not. The French are hobbled by artificial constraints which I am sure, as the logical people they are, they will sweep away before long.

Shelf death

THE VICTORIAN way of death is to be revived. Brompton Cemetery's catacombs, which closed their doors to the dead in 1911, are to reopen for "deposits" under the Government's Private Finance Initiative.

A mere bone's throw from Harrods, the catacombs house 1,200 lead-lined coffins (some of them rotting), which are occupied by members of the Victorian bourgeoisie.

Today, the Royal Parks Agency, which runs Brompton Cemetery, will discuss proposals for new inmates with graveyard contractors who have responded to its advertisements in funerary magazines.

Among those buried in Brompton Cemetery are the suffragette leader Emmeline Pankhurst, John Wisden, who published his first cricketers' almanack in 1864 to promote his sports business, and "Gentleman" John Jackson, a 19th-century boxer who was hired by George IV as a bouncer at his Coronation.

But the catacombs were the fashionable alternative to standard burials at Brompton. They were a Victorian conceit allowing people to be laid to rest above ground.

The Royal Parks Agency says there is plenty of shelf-room for more coffins in the catacombs. It is confident of the financial potential — the cost of being entombed in the catacombs is likely to range from £1,500 to £3,000. "The money would be used to restore the catacomb buildings," said one source. "There's still plenty of room for the dead."

● *Southwark Cathedral, the platform for Tony Blair's speech yesterday in which he voiced his concern over the standards in inner-city schools, was an appropriate choice. Southwark was the original home of Harriet Harman's favourite grammar school, St Olave's — now moved to Orpington — and the cathedral still plays host to the school's annual commemoration service.*

Carved up

THINGS ARE looking up for Sir Rocco Forte, who bade an emotional farewell yesterday to the troops at his former headquarters in London. His car — which he crashed on the eve of Granada's victory over his empire — has just been repaired.

The crash was kept from the press at the time, but Sir Rocco was pootling along in his Daimler by St James's Park in Westminster a couple of Sundays ago. His mind was firmly on Gerry Robinson and Granada when his front door was pranged. Unusually, Rocco had taken to the wheel rather than relying on his chauffeur.

Family first

THE SINGING at Twickenham for the match between Wales and England this Saturday won't be as lusty as usual. Neil "boyo" Kinnock, one of the great songsters of the rugby, is having to put family duty first.

The match had been a firm fixture in his diary, but sadly it clashes with a visit to his son's future in-laws. I disclosed last year that Stephen Kinnock, who works in "economic development" in Brussels, is to marry his Danish girlfriend, Helle Thorning-Schmidt, in Copenhagen. And rugby fixtures are not part of the Danish consciousness.

"Glenys and I are going to Copenhagen to meet the intended in-laws for the first time," says Neil. "To miss the game is breaking my heart, I don't mind telling you."

● *As television image-makers tell the Labour Party to shave off their beards, my mind turned once more to Tony Blair's friend Peter Mandelson and his moustache. Talk in Westminster is that he shaved it off when it began going grey. Miraculously, his hair remains inky-black.*

Ear ear

THE PUNTER'S favourite, Kelvin MacKenzie, former Editor of *The Sun* and now head honcho at *Live TV*, treats his employees as he does his own family. His son Haydn can attest to that.

The Kelvinesque initiation ceremony requires arrivals at his Canary Wharf lair to dress up as the News Bunny — a character he invented to brighten up bulletins by hopping about behind the news presenter, and responding to items with a thumbs-up or a thumbs-down.

Thumbs-up from the Bunny

Enjoying some work experience in his father's empire, Haydn was reluctant to perform as the bunny. But with a few gentle words and the customary "bollocking", he was soon to be seen bouncing about for Britain.

● *On the first day of rehearsals yesterday for Harold Pinter's production of* Twelve Angry Men, *one cast member was missing. E.G. Marshall, who played Juror 4 in the classic film of the play starring Henry Fonda, plays the Judge in this West End version. His character doesn't appear on stage, so he was able to record his lines in the comfort of his home in New York State.*

Missing you

BRUCE WILLIS was the odd man out at Stocks nightclub in Chelsea's King's Road on Friday. He was lost in a sea of former pupils from Gordonstoun's sister school in Switzerland, Aiglon College, at the annual reunion.

Despite the sweaty nature of the occasion — Aiglon is a mixed school — the Hollywood hunk was sporting a woolly hat throughout and looked surly behind his moustache and bodyguards. He was there with a friend who had been to the school where Roger Moore and Sophia Loren sent their children. "He turned down my complimentary glass of champagne, and said he wanted a jug of orange juice," says Aziz Suleman of Stocks. "I think he's on a health-kick, and was missing his wife."

P·H·S

هكذا من الأصل

IT TOOK A RAPE

One crime in Okinawa opens a whole box of trouble

The angry citizens of Okinawa, a small island distanced from Japanese political life by history, culture and a wide expanse of sea, have abruptly acquired a central role in America's strategic thinking. The island plays reluctant host to 26,000 of the 48,000 US troops stationed in Japan, on bases which take up a quarter of Okinawa island. For decades, Japanese politicians have all but ignored Okinawan complaints that this disproportionate concentration of US troops treats their land as a "dumping ground".

The abduction and rape of a young girl last September, for which three black American servicemen are on trial, changed that easy indifference overnight. Four fifths of Okinawans are now demanding a steep reduction in US bases; their Governor has refused to renew a clutch of leases; and the movement for Okinawan independence from Japan has surged. In Japan, the public consensus on the US-Japan Security Treaty, unequivocally described by the Pentagon as "the linchpin" of American strategy in Asia, has begun to develop its first serious cracks since the anti-US riots of 1960.

Trapped between the need to respond to popular anger and his Foreign Ministry's well-founded anxiety not to do anything that would open the treaty to question, Ryutaro Hashimoto, the new Japanese Prime Minister, has promised to negotiate the removal of some bases to Japan's "home" islands. But that is easier said than done. Japanese and American officials are struggling to find a compromise before President Clinton arrives in April, for a visit whose centrepiece is supposed to be a joint declaration reaffirming the treaty's central importance in the US-Japanese relationship. But because no municipality in Japan is keen to offer alternative bases, the quest for a solution keeps the Okinawa incident firmly in the headlines.

This is precisely what both sides want to avoid. Any talk of "renegotiation" is anathema to the Pentagon, at a time when voices on Capitol Hill are beginning to question the need to spend $35 billion on maintaining 100,000 troops in Asia. Critics argue that Japan is quite wealthy enough to assume the costs of its own defence, now that the Soviet threat to Japan is over. If Mr Hashimoto makes the first move, he could find that such arguments developed an unstoppable momentum, with the risk of deep cuts in America's military presence in Asia. For the Japanese Establishment, there is powerful poison in this Pandora's Box, because any change to Japan's total reliance on the American security umbrella would bring into question Article 9 of the country's postwar "peace constitution", under which it renounced the right of belligerence.

The Okinawa incident thus feeds directly into a much broader political debate in Japan on previously taboo subjects such as sovereignty, national responsibility and the conversion of its economic strength into international political influence. Ochiro Ozawa, the leader of the Japanese Opposition, has led this debate, arguing that it is high time for Japan to become "a normal country" — militarily as well as politically.

This debate cannot be wished back into the box. But America and Japan have the strongest mutual interest in caution. The American military presence in Japan is still vital, as a counterbalance to China, a deterrent to North Korea and a necessary reassurance to Japan's Asian neighbours — who are already engaged in the world's fastest arms race. Neither can afford to downplay the central strategic argument for the security treaty: it is the only serious force for stability in a region which has yet to put behind it the perils of the Cold War.

COULD DO BETTER

Labour is moving on education, but not far enough

Tony Blair is determined not to give an inch of ground on education to the Tories. After the Harman affair a period of silence on Labour's part might have been welcome, but last night at Southwark Cathedral Mr Blair returned to the offensive. His courage does him credit, but his counter-attack shows that there is still some way to go before his party's education policy finds coherence.

Mr Blair's Southwark speech was not designed to address education only. It was conceived as a thoughtful survey of social issues on the tenth anniversary of the Church of England's report, *Faith in the City*. Mr Blair sought to sketch out what his stakeholder vision means for social policy and to review how concerns about a fracturing society voiced ten years ago had been met.

But education lay at the the heart of the speech. Knowing how much any comments on schools would attract after the recent battles, Mr Blair rose to the challenge. He outlined new ideas to deal with some of the difficulties laid bare last week. The debate which followed Harriet Harman's rejection of her local comprehensives had a resonance beyond Westminster because her actions encapsulated widespread parental worries about levelling-down. Mr Blair tried to tackle head-on his chief problem: how to encourage excellence in the state sector, without conceding the case for selection.

His answer is accelerated learning, a means of allowing talented pupils to leap ahead of their classmates and tackle courses appropriate to their abilities, irrespective of age. The recognition that mixed ability teaching currently fails our most gifted pupils, not to mention those at the bottom, is welcome. But Mr Blair's answer is not wholly convincing. The experience of youthful prodigies mixing with their elders is not a happy one. The precocious may have their minds stretched but they can become impoverished socially, denied the benefits of continuous contact with those who are maturing at the same pace.

A method already exists of ensuring the broad social mix that supporters of state education want, while allowing the able to find their own level. It also, unlike accelerated learning, keeps pupils of similar ages together. It is selection, and it is the uncontested choice of socialists and social democrats across Europe. From Austria to The Netherlands, a consensus underpins a system which shepherds children into the most appropriate school for their abilities and attainments. Rather than transplant an exceptional 11-year-old into a group who are much more mature it would place him in a class with children of equal ability, and age.

Mr Blair's bravery may lead him to refight the education battle every week before election day but he will not win so long as he dodges the logic of selection. Ancestral opposition to the crudity of the 11-plus should not stop new Labour from exploring how selection guarantees diversity, fosters specialisation and makes for a more meritocratic society in other modern European states. Mr Blair took on the fundamentalist faction in his party over common ownership; he should do the same on comprehensives.

AN EXILED MIND

Gratitude to a great Russian who taught us English

When the Russian poet and critic Joseph Brodsky died in New York on Sunday, so did the teacher of Helen Handley and Ann Sherrill Pyne, just two of the English-speaking students who learnt from him about their own poetry, their own language and each other. Although Brodsky has been justly celebrated at his death as a Nobel laureate, prison-camp survivor and, in the words of *The Times* obituary today, "the great postwar poet of memory", to these two women from Columbia University he was also the thick-voiced foreigner who taught them about W. H. Auden. And in teaching about Auden, he taught about how to write, how to live and how living and writing are linked.

Brodsky became most famous in America for the essay *Less Than One*, which described his childhood consciousness of communism in Leningrad. But in the same essay collection there was also an extraordinary lecture on Auden's poem, *September 1, 1939*, part of a poetry course which Brodsky created for his new countrymen after he was expelled from the Soviet Union in 1972. This was the piece which Handley and Pyne took the trouble to record and transcribe. Brodsky would surely not have considered it his finest memorial but, in a curious way, it has its claim: within this work of teaching lies all the strength of discipline, detail and authority with which the rescued Russian exile can reward those who rescued him.

Auden was himself one of the first to receive Brodsky in America. One wartime refugee found the will to help another. Auden had written *September 1, 1939* in his great series of explorations of Europe from the US: in the course of the work, Auden cites a third great political and literary exile, the Athenian historian Thucydides. Brodsky, drawing on his Russian imprisonment and his harsh separation from his family, piles up a mountain of wisdom on democracy, morality and literature — then brazenly displays it for his students.

Perhaps the greatest benefit to set against Brodsky's early death is the reason it gives us to read his words again — complete with their poor pedagogic jokes, ironic hauteurs and barely concealed Slavic accent. This column is not the place to distil his essence. If we tried to compress the meaning of Auden for Brodsky into the next hundred words, we would be claiming powers that we do not have — an act worthy of a sneer from both poets and from Thucydides too.

But no reader, then or now, could miss Brodsky's rare and supreme confidence in the hard work of critical understanding: how he lectured his students on the essentials of poetry, the way that "rhyme turns an idea into law", the way that nouns can be rhymed but "verbs you shouldn't, and rhyming adjectives is taboo"; how he sensed his listeners' peace-born contempt for past events ("well, a little bit of history shouldn't hurt, should it?") and challenged them with their carelessness ("the author of this poem, as you already know, having been made to learn it, is a critic of this century").

He never deviated from his conviction that the teaching of his chosen poem was important. When he linked Auden's criticism of this century with Auden's self-criticism, he concluded: "If you think that there are other recipes for successful poetic operation, you are in for oblivion." No student of Brodsky has an excuse for critical oblivion. Nor will that exiled mind face oblivion itself — not for as long as some men and women read and others are driven by politics from their homes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Flaws of principle in draft new BBC Charter

From Mrs Jocelyn Hay and others

Sir, We should heed the warning by the Bishop of Southwark and other peers, given in the Lords on January 9, that the arrangements to represent the regions of England proposed in the draft new BBC Charter are unfair and inadequate.

These proposals would remove both the existing advisory bodies for England and the BBC General Advisory Council — a nationwide body on which all regions of England have been well represented, as well as Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Each of the three latter countries would retain its own broadcasting council and, although some of the powers of these councils would be withdrawn to the BBC board of governors, each would keep a representative governor on the board and a right to be consulted about programmes and policies in their respective countries.

In its 1994 White Paper on the future of the BBC the Government rejected such a council for England. Instead, last February, the then Under Secretary of State at the Department of National Heritage, Mr Iain Sproat, promised the Commons that England would have ten regional councils and that their chairmen would, together, constitute an English Regional Forum. However, the BBC has since blocked the creation of such a forum, and only the regional councils appear in the new draft Charter. Mr Sproat's alternative bodies will thus be powerless.

A Charter provision establishing a forum for the regions of England would provide a powerful force to counter an increasing tendency to centralism within the BBC. Such a forum would place regional broadcasting at the heart of the corporation's policy-making, and it would help to prevent resentment if the three existing national governors act in concert on regional concerns.

The Government should ignore the BBC's ambivalence. It should take the advice given in the Lords and make proper provision for England before the Charter returns to the Commons in a few weeks' time.

Yours faithfully,
JOCELYN HAY
(Chairman,
Voice of the Listener and Viewer),
NIGEL SMITH
(Chairman, Broadcasting for Scotland),
MHAIRI BEYNON OWEN
(Chairman,
The Broadcasting Campaign for Wales),
Voice of the Listener and Viewer,
101 King's Drive, Gravesend, Kent.
January 26.

From Mr Neil Fraser

Sir, The Government intends that the BBC's new Charter will make it more accountable to its audiences. The BBC's initial response suggests this result is far from assured.

The Charter would require the BBC to publish each year a statement of promises to audiences, along the lines of the Citizen's Charter. It would set specific targets and objectives for the BBC's national UK services and be used to monitor performance. The BBC would be allowed to change the statement, but only after further consultation with its audiences.

As a new mechanism, its existence in the Charter, let alone its potential, are not widely appreciated. Anticipating this, the then Under Secretary of State at the Department of National Heritage, Viscount Astor, wrote to us in March 1995:

> We intend that a model of the Statement of Promises should be laid in broad outline before Parliament at the same time as the new draft Charter and Agreement. My officials are currently discussing with the BBC the nature of the commitments in the Agreement, and the detailed content of the Statement of Promises.

Last November the BBC produced this vague "model" statement, lacking detail on children's programming, education or any of the yardsticks on regional broadcasting we have been led to expect by the Secretary of State for National Heritage. There seems to have been little consultation within the BBC, certainly none outside it. It appears that the board of governors may not have seen or approved it.

If, at the outset, this unacceptable model is allowed to set the standard, the statement of promises will be of little practical value to audiences and its potential squandered. The BBC ought to make good this lapse by giving some early public assurance as to how it will consult widely before publishing the first statement.

Yours sincerely,
NEIL FRASER
(Treasurer),
Broadcasting for Scotland,
74 Victoria Crescent Road, Glasgow.
January 26.

Victims of crime

From Mrs Marian Cohen

Sir, I have just heard Mr Michael Heseltine speak of the Conservative Party's sympathy for victims of crime (report, January 29).

Why then is it about to reduce the levels of compensation payments to victims of unprovoked attacks by reducing the level of payments made by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board?

Yours faithfully,
MARIAN COHEN,
Montague Lambert & Co
(Solicitors),
37-38 Haven Green, Ealing, W5.
January 29.

Irish peace process

From Mr R. D. Jackson

Sir, Mr Barry Lillis (letter, January 29) points to the "simplicity" of Lloyd George's truce offer to the IRA in 1921. There is only one response: yes, and look what has happened in the intervening 64 years.

Yours faithfully,
R. D. JACKSON,
Downend,
Hopgarden Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent.
January 29.

Disk trouble

From Mr Philip Warner

Sir, It looks to me as though Mr Simon Dobbs, who is daunted by the cost of "backing up" his computer (letter, January 24), has not been well advised.

However large his hard disk, he need only back up any "*data*" (the last pages of his novel, his accounts, this week's payroll) that may have changed since the previous back-up. This will probably take a few seconds and barely fill one small diskette. He then puts this *somewhere else*, not beside the computer, in case of an office fire. A computer can easily be set up to remind one to do this before switching it off.

His hard disk may be filled with many megabytes of "applications" (his word processor program, spreadsheet program, "windows", etc), but these need not be backed up. Their unchanging duplicates are still on the disks in the boxes in which (we hope) he legally bought them. He can easily instal these on another computer if he "crashes".

Writing this counsel of perfection reminds me that I have not backed up for weeks. The longer a hard disk seems to be working perfectly, the less one nervously backs up. Then, one morning . . . crash!

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP WARNER,
Sherborne House, Lakewood Road,
Chandlers Ford, Hampshire.
January 24.

From Mr Frank Pert

Sir, Mr Dobbs suggests that it would cost about £300 to back up everything on his 500-megabyte disk. In my experience there are several excellent utilities programs on the market which perform the tiresome job, all costing well under £100. As a heavy-duty computer user I have frequently been grateful for my affordable back-up system.

Yours faithfully,
F. M. PERT,
Brook House, 3 Craig Walk,
Windermere, Cumbria.
January 24.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Prison staffing

From the Editor of The Prisoners' Handbook

Sir, The announcement that the Prison Service is to cut the number of prison officers by almost 3,000 (report, later editions, January 27) will have a profound effect on control inside our penal system: and the tragedy is that a more effective solution to the problem of overstaffing is already well known.

The working practices of the English Prison Service have long been the dictate of the Prison Officers Association. Despite the fact that less than 20 per cent of prison officers actually work with prisoners in the cell blocks, all officers are on one unified pay grade, on average £18,000. Increments above the basic level are dependent not so much on responsibility as length of service.

Paying all these officers at the same rate, when only a small proportion actually deal directly with prisoners, is at the root of the massive problem of staffing costs.

A year ago the Scottish Prison Service tackled this problem by introducing a radical restructuring which placed prison officers into one of five pay bands; those in the cell blocks who took the most risks received the most money while those, for example, who manned the prison gate received less — meaning cuts in pay of up to £5,000 per annum.

Had the Home Secretary adopted this approach, there would be no need for these inept staffing cuts. Given that the Strangeways riot in 1990 cost the taxpayer almost £60 million, these cuts will probably result in far more expense at the end of the day than current figures suggest they will ever save.

Yours sincerely,
MARK LEECH,
Editor, *The Prisoners' Handbook*,
PO Box 27,
Kingswood, Bristol BS15 4BX.

US orchestras

From Mr Humphrey Burton

Sir, In attempting a trans-continental survey of American orchestral life ("Five go in search of their former glory", Arts, January 25) your correspondent Jamie James was forced back on generalisations which are contradicted by my own recent experience.

Far from losing its lustre, the Boston Symphony Orchestra recently confirmed its position as the world's foremost commissioner of orchestral music — a subject not discussed in your report — by giving several confident and sensitive performances of Sir Michael Tippett's latest and reportedly last composition, *The Rose Lake*.

The composer was present both in Boston and at New York's Carnegie Hall: the standing ovations he received were heartfelt, and his gratitude to the Bostonians and their devoted music director Seiji Ozawa appeared equally profound.

A few days later, also at Carnegie Hall, I heard another distinguished American orchestra, the Pittsburgh Symphony, whose recent achievements were inexplicably overlooked by your correspondent. During his ten-year tenure as music director, now coming to a climax with a major European tour, Lorin Maazel has developed Pittsburgh — of whose violin section he was once a teenage member — into an ensemble that can claim equal status with the so-called Big Five [New York, Chicago, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Boston].

Conductors, one can't help feeling, transform good orchestras into great ones: in Ozawa and Maazel, Boston and Pittsburgh have benefited incalculably from the presence of two of the world's best.

Yours sincerely,
HUMPHREY BURTON,
123 Oakwood Court, W14.
January 26.

Ten years on . . .

From Lord Rix

Sir, You remind us in your feature, "And then it was up to us" (January 26), that ten years ago, when the paper was first compiled at Wapping, there was a leader where every full stop was followed by a new paragraph. May I remind you that opposite that editorial was an article by me (in my then capacity as secretary-general of Mencap) headed "Give charity basic relief", whose typography was correct in every detail, down to the last sentence.

In this article, I pleaded with the Treasury that "individuals and businesses who make contributions to charitable organisations would all be allowed to set these off against taxable income, without following the covenant route".

I'm happy to report that the Chancellor of the day — Nigel Lawson — must have been reading that first Wapping issue, for he clearly agreed with my suggestion that "all it needs is the Chancellor to recognise the benefits bestowed and it could be part of this year's Budget".

It was, and the first faltering steps were taken in the direction of payroll giving and gift-aid.

Improvements have followed over the years but with the fundamental change in income tax just around the corner, involving self-assessment, how splendid it would be if *all* gifts, from the widow's mite to the tycoon's tens of millions, could be free of minimum and maximum restrictions.

Yours etc,
BRIAN RIX
(Chairman, Mencap),
House of Lords.
January 26.

Family businesses

From Mr John Raybould

Sir, Three cheers for the entrepreneurial spirit of Mr Alfred Forte who admits that "selling ice-cream in Berwick at this time of the year is not the easiest way of making a living" (report, January 26). Mr Forte, second cousin of Sir Rocco, apparently runs a small family-owned ice-cream parlour and café in Berwick-upon-Tweed.

His business, like so many "Mom & Pop" establishments, has survived 75 years through the Depression, the Second World War and the "stop-go cycle" since 1945.

Mr and Mrs Forte (Northumberland branch) surely stand as a tribute to the thousands of small businessmen and women working all hours of the day, often against the odds and frequently for poor returns.

Not gainsaying Sir Rocco and Lord Forte's obvious success, their northern cousins represent, I feel, the rich diversity and traditional enterprise of our "nation of shopkeepers" down the ages.

As our high streets rapidly lose their old, familiar names to the march of the multiples, we must all continue to patronise our local, small businesses, which are still, as Adam Smith wrote 220 years ago, the backbone of our society.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN RAYBOULD,
The Old Vicarage,
High Street, Newport,
Saffron Walden, Essex.
January 26.

Lottery grants for individual merit

From Mr H. H. Shaw

Sir, The change of rules to allow individual sporting and artistic grants from the National Lottery (reports, January 23) should, I believe, be cancelled or amended.

There is no more selfish pursuit than that of personal excellence, whether as an artist or an athlete. However good for the nation sport or "culture" may be, those engaged perform primarily for their own success and self-esteem, often putting all other considerations aside.

Those successfully engaged in sport and theatre are gathering cash and kudos to themselves these days at a staggering rate. Why should public money be poured into personal sponsorship? If the performance is good enough, commercial sponsorship will follow.

Capital grants offer facilities for all. Personal grants will reduce the amounts available for capital projects.

Yours sincerely,
H. H. SHAW,
8 The Toppings, Bredbury,
Stockport, Greater Manchester.
January 23.

From Mr Howard Royse

Sir, Mrs Bottomley's announcement of lottery grants for the training of sportsmen and sportswomen is to be welcomed, but with some reservation.

Many people in the United Kingdom are sick and tired at the recurrence of "black weekends" when our national teams are beaten at football, cricket and rugby. If spending money is the solution, then so be it.

However, it may be the case that our sporting skills are too thinly spread, from the profusion of minority sports in the last 20 years or so. The lottery money should be restricted to those mainstream sports at which we are traditionally competitive — a short list, perhaps, of the three aforementioned sports plus athletics and other Olympic events. Leave the rest to the plucky amateurs.

Yours faithfully,
HOWARD ROYSE,
Birchfield Gardens,
Mulbarton, Norwich, Norfolk.
January 23.

From Mr Andrew M. Clark

Sir, The news about lottery subsidies for upcoming sportsmen and artistes has left me wondering where the executors of this phenomenal financial resource get their priorities from.

The young people dropping out of third-level education nowadays because of student loans and reduced grants could, to my mind, have had the potential to contribute more to society than another mention in *The Guinness Book of Records*.

Yours faithfully,
A. M. CLARK,
10 Glenn Park,
Portstewart, Co Londonderry.
January 23.

Sport on TV

From Mr Richard Amos

Sir, Snooker is the only sport I would miss if it were not shown on TV and for this I will happily pay the £5 levy (letters, January 27).

But how many of us are there who would willingly pay an opera levy?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD AMOS,
Sunnyside,
Mellis Common, Eye, Suffolk.
January 29.

Bishops' residences

From the Bishop of Exeter

Sir, I was pleased to see Mr Ancrum Evans's letter on bishops' residences (January 18) giving the opposite view to the Reverend Francis Bown's, alleging failure to use them for entertaining and supporting the clergy.

In 1994 the count of parish clergy and their spouses coming into this house and grounds for sit-down meals was 146 and for light refreshments 501. The overall total of those who came that year for hospitality, business, and community and cultural events was 5,065.

Knowing my colleagues as I do, I have no reason to suppose that these figures are anything but average for such premises.

Yours faithfully,
†HEWLETT EXON:,
The Palace,
Exeter, Devon.
January 19.

No maiden flight

From Mr George Speaight

Sir, May I correct a small error in your obituary of Giles Playfair (January 24)? Although Giles was one of the only two members of the Oxford University Balloon Union, he did not actually ascend with Tallulah Bankhead in its inaugural (and only) flight in, I think, 1930.

Although Miss Bankhead is said to have asked Giles's father, Sir Nigel Playfair, to "call me Balloonah", the only passenger on that occasion was the union's other member, my late brother Hugh.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE SPEAIGHT,
6 Maze Road, Kew Gardens,
Richmond, Surrey.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 29: The Princess Royal this evening departed from Royal Air Force Brize Norton to visit the Falkland Islands.

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gibbs and Air Commodore the Hon Timothy Elworthy are in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 29: The Princess of Wales this afternoon attended a Luncheon given by the Association of American Correspondents in London at Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, London W1.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 29: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester today received Señora Zedillo and Señora de Rozental.

Today's royal engagements

Princess Margaret, as President of the NSPCC, will visit J Ç Bamford Excavators, Rocester, at 12.15 and will receive a cheque for money raised by employees for the society's Mid-Staffordshire branch centenary.

Today's events

The Queen's Life Guard mounts at Horse Guards at 11.00. The Queen's Guard mounts at Buckingham Palace at 11.30.

Lady Michael Fitzalan Howard

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Meg Fitzalan Howard will be held at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on Wednesday, March 27, at noon.

St Aubyns, Rottingdean

Old Boys are reminded that a special fund is available to help with the education of a son, daughter or grandchild of an Old Boy of the school. Details are obtainable from the Headmaster, Julian James (01273 302170).

Fruiterers' Company

Sir Rowland Whitehead, Master of the Fruiterers' Company, has presented medals and diplomas to the 1995 Marden Fruit Show winners: Best exhibit of dessert apples (Spartan) Mr Mathew Wilson; best exhibit of culinary apples (Bramley) Mr John Bardsley; best exhibit of pears (Comnice) Mrs Pat Thompsett.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
The Jamaican High Commissioner was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Mr Robert Newell presided.

Birthdays today

Sir Herbert Ashworth, former chairman, Nationwide Building Society, 86; Mr Jack Bowman, former Chief Constable, Tayside, 65; Sir Fred Catherwood, former MEP, 71; Sir John Clerk of Penicuik, former Lord Lieutenant of Midlothian, 79; Mr Phil Collins, rock singer, drummer and actor, 45; Miss Christina Foyle, book seller, 85; Mr Nick Gaselee, racehorse trainer, 57; Sir Robert Gatehouse, former High Court judge, 72; Mr Patrick Heron, painter, 76; Mr Christopher Howes, Crown Estate Second Commissioner, 54; the Earl of Huntingdon, 48; Viscount Long, 67; Lord Lowry, 77; Lord Mackay of Drumadoon, QC, 50; Mr Bob Muddimer, chairman, Ranks Hovis McDougall, 63; Sir Foley Newns, former colonial administrator, 87; Professor A.G. Ogston, former President, Trinity College, Oxford, 85; Mr Louis Osman, architect, artist and goldsmith, 82; Mr Hal Prince, director and producer, 68; Mr John Profumo, president, Toynbee Hall, 81; Miss Vanessa Redgrave, actress, 59; Mr Martin Taylor, former vice-chairman, Hanson, 61; Lord Westwood, 52.

Dinners

Inter-Parliamentary Union
Dame Jill Knight, Chairman of the British group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, was the host at a dinner held last night at the Royal Horseguards Hotel in honour of a Parliamentary Delegation from Iceland led by Mr Geir Haarde.

Cardiff Business Club
The President of Cardiff Business Club, Sir Idwal Pugh, the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Mr Wynford Evans, and the Recorder of the City of Cardiff, Judge Michael Gibbon, were present at a dinner held by the Club at Cardiff Castle last night in honour of the French Ambassador, M Jean Guéguinou. The Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor Timothy H. Davies, presided.

Thorney Island Society
Mr David Welch, Chief Executive of the Royal Parks, was the guest speaker at a dinner of the Thorney Island Society held last night at the Basil Street Hotel. Miss June Stubbs, chairman of the society, presided.

Utley Memorial Awards offer £4,000 in prizes

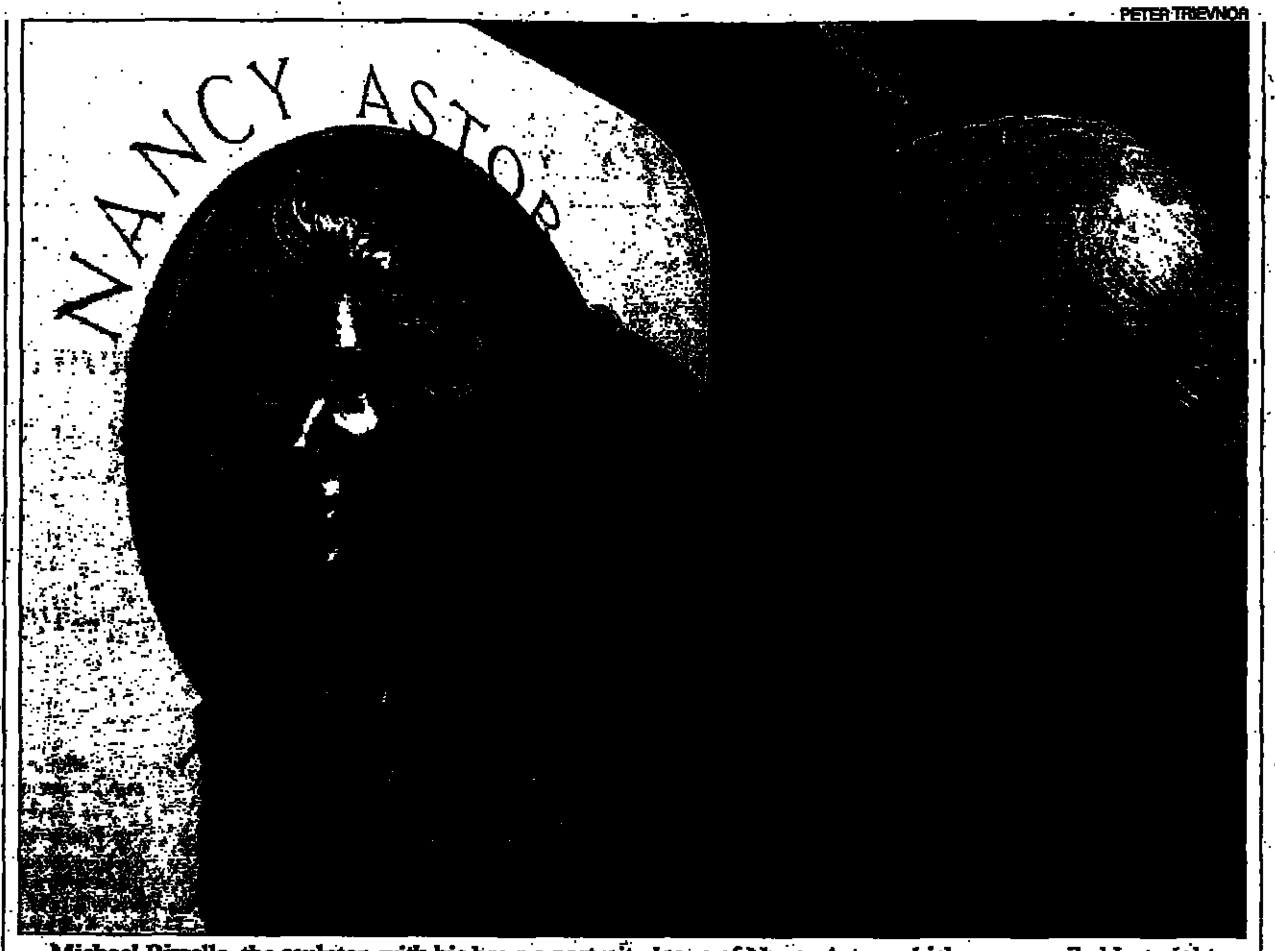
Aspiring journalists still at school or university can win £4,000 in prize money in this year's T.E. Utley Memorial Awards, set up in 1988 in memory of the distinguished political journalist.

Two awards will be given for unpublished essays. Contestants should answer the following question: Within the last 50 years the relations between men and women, and between races, have been revolutionised. Should the relations between humans and animals undergo a comparably dramatic transformation within the next 50 years, what will the likely consequences be, for better or worse?

This year's judges, chaired by Mr Frank Johnson, Editor of *The Spectator*, will look for intelligence, wit and clear English.

The university award, open to all students enrolled at university and aged under 25, is £2,500; and the school award, open to all students at secondary schools or aged under 18, is £1,500. Typescript of not more than 1,200 words with relevant details should be sent to the secretary of the fund at 111 Sugden Road, London SW11 5ED, by April 29., 1996.

PETER TREVNOR



Michael Rizzello, the sculptor, with his bronze portrait plaque of Nancy Astor, which was unveiled last night by the Speaker in the State Apartments of Speaker's House in Westminster. On December 1, 1919, Nancy Astor became the first woman to sit in Parliament. She represented the Sutton division of Plymouth for 25 years until her retirement in 1945. The bronze relief was commissioned for the House of Commons by the Astor family.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: George Villiers, 2nd Duke of Buckingham, statesman, Westminster, 1628; Walter Savage Landor, writer, Warwick, 1775; Sir Seymour Hicks, actor-manager, St Helier, Jersey, 1871; Franklin D. Roosevelt, 32nd American President 1933-45, New York, 1882.

DEATHS: King Charles I, reigned 1625-49, executed, Whitehall, London, 1649; Orville Wright, pioneer aviator, Dayton, Ohio, 1948; Mahatma Gandhi, Indian political and religious leader, assassinated, New Delhi, 1948; François Poulenc, composer, Paris, 1963.

A Nazi Government, led by Hitler, was formed in Germany, 1933.

The state funeral of Winston Churchill took place, London, 1965.

The Vietcong captured the American Embassy in Saigon, 1968.

Troops killed 13 people during riots in Londonderry in what became known as "Bloody Sunday", 1972.

Glovers' Company

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by Alderman and Sheriff Sir Peter and Lady Levene, were presented with gloves by Mr Alan Fishman, Master of the Glovers' Company, at a luncheon held yesterday at Fishmongers' Hall.

The Lord Mayor presented the prizes to the winners of the Glove Guild of Great Britain's annual design competition and a shield to this year's recipient of the Glovers' bursary to a first year student at the Cordwainers' College.

Luncheon

Royal Over-Seas League
The High Commissioner for Canada was the guest of honour at a luncheon given yesterday at Over-Seas House, St James's, by Sir Geoffrey Ellerton, chairman, and members of the central council of the Royal Over-Seas League.

Appointments

Mr Matthew Clarke to be a Judge of the Courts of Appeal of Jersey and Guernsey.

Mr John Terence Curran to be a Circuit Judge, assigned to the Wales and Chester Circuit.

New entries for the Royal Navy

The following candidates were declared successful for entry to the Royal Navy and have entered Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth:

Direct graduate entry

Sub Lieutenant (full career commission) seaman:
P J Skidmore, Carleton High S, N.E.W. College, Hull Univ; C E M Saunders, Colston Boys' S, Brunel Coll of Technology, Royal Holloway & Bedford New Coll, Univ of London, Middlesex Univ; K L M Babbington, Blundell's S, Edinburgh Univ; S C Coles, Portsmouth Grammar S, Bristol Univ; G C Brockington, Repton S, Kings Coll, London Univ.

Sub Lieutenant (short career commission) seaman:
B S Woodford, Reigate Grammar S, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Univ; R H White, Holy Rood High S, Coll of Law, York, Dundee Univ; S J Taylor, Cwrt Sart School, Neath Tertiary Coll, Afan Tertiary Coll, Liverpool Univ, Univ of Wales, Swansea; A J Clemson, Hagley R C High S, Durham Univ; C B Doyle, Whitgift S, Birmingham Univ; S M Humphries, Solihull Sixth Form, Hull Univ; J Jones, Salisbury S, London, Barnet Coll of Further Education, Middlesex Univ; J A Keith, St Olave's G S, Orpington, Mansfield Coll, Oxford; D S Morley, Ecclesbourne S, Duffield, Essex Univ; P T O'Brien, St Edward's Coll, Liverpool, Halton Coll of Further Education, Leicester Univ, Queen Mary & Westfield Coll, London Univ; E L Pavey, St Ives Comprehensive School, Penwith VI Form Coll, Kingston University.

Sub Lieutenant (medium career commission) ME:
G C Tumelty, Bro Myrddin Comp S, Leicester Univ, Univ of Wales, Swansea; C L Duesbury, United States Coast Guard Academy.

Sub Lieutenant (medium career commission) AE:
A W D Banham, Stowe S, Cambridge Centre for Sixth Form Studies, Manchester Univ.

Sub Lieutenant (short career commission) WE:
R J Small, Bishop Vesey's Grammar S, Durham Univ; J R E Saward, The Deanes S, Seecat Coll of Further Education, Bath Univ; J Palmer, Ysgol David Hughes Anglesey, Cambridge Univ-Churchill College, Brunel Univ.

Sub Lieutenant (short career commission) ME:
A G Wood, Charles Darwin S, Chumleigh Community Coll, St Lawrence Coll, Reading Univ; J H Brutton, Kings Coll S, Wimbledon, Warwick Univ.

Sub Lieutenant (full career commission) supply and secretariat:
E J Stowe, Surbiton H S, The Maynard S, Exeter Coll of Further Educn, Kingston Univ, Queen Mary & Westfield Coll, London Univ.

Sub Lieutenant (short career commission) supply and secretariat:
J J Haigh, Cherwell Coll, Bournemouth Univ; J A I Burnham, Fettes Coll, Glasgow, Strathclyde Univ; D L Porter, St Peter's S, York, Bedford S, Leeds Univ, St John's Coll.

Sub Lieutenant (medium career commission) aircrew (pilot):
D R Hooton, King George V Coll, Sunderland Univ; S M Hughes, Vyner Secondary S, Loughborough Univ.

Sub Lieutenant (short career commission) aircrew (pilot):
R E F Ambrose, Cheadle Hulme S, University Coll London; K M Thomson, Kyle Academy, Glasgow Univ; J Wilson, Margaret Glen Bott S, Forest Fields Sixth Form Coll, Nottingham Trent Univ; A R Baines, Clayesmore Prep S, Sherborne S, Edinburgh Univ; J P Frean, R M Transfer; S B Gamble, J M Holder, Torquay Grammar S, University Coll, London; M R Leighton, King Edward VI Grammar S, Chelmsford, Leeds Univ; B C Lewis, Cams Hill Comprehensive, Itchen Coll of Further Educn, Bristol Univ; M D Pedler, Sturminster Newton H S, Shaftesbury VI Form Coll, Queen Mary & Westfield Coll, London Univ.

Sub Lieutenant (medium career commission) aircrew (observer):
D J Normanshire, Ermysteds Grammar S, Skipton, Univ of Wales.

Sub Lieutenant (short career commission) aircrew (observer):
J C Clarke, Birkenhead S, Loughborough Univ; D J Cole, Shelley High, Hull Univ; H M McKee, Queen Victoria High, Dunblane, Napier Univ.

Naval College Entry

Midshipman (short career commission) seaman:
R S J Ackerley, Culford S; E S Cossins, Sherborne S; P Daley; I R Finch, Colchester Inst of Further Educn; M J C Hember, St Lawrence S; M J Beeby, Tuxford Comprehensive S, Worksop Coll; R J Moran, Watford Boys' Grammar College, Cassio Coll, Teesside Univ.

Midshipman (full career commission) supply and secretariat
J Hooper, Stoodley Knowle Convent School.

Midshipman (short career commission) supply and secretariat
J L Bradney, Tolworth Girls' S, Fareham Tertiary Coll.

Sub Lieutenant (medium career commission) aircrew (pilot)
G I Simmonite, Brislington Comprehensive S, St Brendan's Sixth Form Coll.

Midshipman (medium career commission) aircrew (pilot)
J B Mount, Hurstpierpoint Coll; P A Greenwood.

Midshipman (short career commission) aircrew (observer)
I S Mercer, Fairfield High S, Widnes, Widnes VI Form Coll.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev John Wesson, Rector, St Martin-in-the-Bullring, Birmingham: to be Officer for Post-Ordination Training and Continuing Ministerial Education, Board of Ministry, diocese Lichfield, and Assistant Minister of St Michael's, Lichfield.

The Right Rev Michael Whinney, Residentiary Canon and Director of Mission, diocese of Birmingham: to be Honorary Assistant Bishop, same diocese.

The Rev James Woodward, Chaplain Manager, Queen Elizabeth Medical Centre, Edgbaston: to be Priest-in-charge, Middleton and Wishaw, and Bishop's Adviser for health and social care (Birmingham).

The Rev Paul Wordsworth, Vicar, York St Thomas w. St Maurice: to be Archbishop's Mission Adviser (York), for three years.

The Rev Mark Worthington, Assistant Curate, St Andrew, Monkwearmouth: to be Assistant Curate, St Mary and St Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street (Durham).

Resignations and retirements

The Rev Trevor Clark, Vicar, Campsall, Doncaster (Sheffield): resigned on [illegible] 31 due to ill health.

Canon Fred [illegible], Vicar, St Edburgha, [illegible] (Birmingham): to retire March 31.

The Rev Paul Nicholas, Vicar, All Saints', Shard End (Birmingham): to resign February 29.

The Rev Alec Price, Chaplain and Resident Minister, Shrewsbury Town Centre St Alkmund's (Lichfield): to retire March 4.

The Rev John Talbot, Honorary Curate, Hethersett (Norwich): to resign April 1, w permission to officiate, same diocese.

The Rev Maxwell Timbrell, Vicar, Ingleby Greenhow w. Bilsdale Priory, Kildale and Westerdale (York): to retire May 31.

Scottish Episcopal Church

Resignation

The Rev Edward Peter Mosley as Honorary Assistant Priest at St John's Rothiemurchus and St Columba's Grantown on Spey.

Appointments in the Forces

The Army

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL: Major General C B Q Wallace to be Chief of Joint Operations, February 1, 1996, in the rank of Lieutenant General.

BRIGADIER: M G Douglas-Withers - To be Dir RA, 3.2.96; P A D Evans - To MOD, 29.1.96; M J Strudwick - To be Dir Inf, 29.1.96.

COLONEL: G J Yeoman - To MOD, 29.1.96.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL: W E Brewin R Signals - To R Sch of Sigs, 29.1.96; D N Challes RA - To RMCS, 29.1.96; D L Connon Hldrs - To MOD, 29.1.96; N B Josling RLC - To HQ Land, 29.1.96; B K Martin Para - To JPS, 29.1.96; A V Pedder RA - To be CO RA Range Hebrides, 29.1.96; J H O'H Pollock IG - To be CO 1 IG, 29.1.96; J T Smith R Signals - To HQ Land, 3.2.96; M R Toms RLC - To HQ Land, 29.1.96; A J Loudon KOSB - To MOD, 29.1.96.

Retirements

BRIGADIER: N P S O'Connor Late RA, 1.2.96.

COLONEL: M K Goldschmidt Late R Anglian, 1.2.96; R A Stewart Late Cheshire, 1.2.96; D B Waddell Late RAOC, 1.2.96; P Whitemoore Late R Signals 1.2.96.

Royal Air Force

WING COMMANDER: E.J. Mclean - HQPTC, 29.1.96; M.W. Brumage - AFCENT, 29.1.96; D.R.E. Evans - HQ AFNORTHWEST, 29.1.96; C.R. Parkhurst, RAF Uxbridge, 29.1.96

Retirements

WING COMMANDER: K.D. Craig - 21.1.96.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.B. Attenborough and Miss A. Richardson
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mrs Barbara Attenborough and of the late Mr Kenneth Attenborough, and Anne, daughter of Dr and Mrs Ian Richardson.

Captain T.P.R. Daniel and Miss E.J.L. Cameron
The engagement is announced between Captain Thomas Patrick Rivallon Daniel, The Blues and Royals, son of Colonel and Mrs John Daniel, of Chideock, Dorset, and Elizabeth Jean Lucinda, daughter of Mr and Mrs Evan Cameron, of Chiddingfold, Surrey.

Mr C.M. Head and Miss A.E. Holroyd
The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of Wing Commander Michael Head, retd, and Mrs Head, of Hove, East Sussex, and Amanda, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Holroyd, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

Count Riccardo Pavoncelli and Miss C. von Bülow
The engagement is announced between Riccardo, son of Count and Countess Pavoncelli, of Orvieto, Italy, and Cosima Ionna, daughter of Mr Claus von Bülow, of London, and of Martha Crawford von Bülow.

Mr P.B. Southall and Miss A.T. Powell
The engagement is announced between Petter, younger son of Mr Charles Southall, of Carmel, California, and of Mrs Eli Southall, of Bergen, Norway, and Anna, younger daughter of the late Mr Hugh Powell and of Mrs Janet Powell, of Chalmington, Dorset.

Mystery of Louvre vase is solved

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

THE mystery of Mitadolus has been solved, and the final piece of an historical jigsaw puzzle put in place, in the story of Queen Eleanor's Vase. A web of connections spun from Sassanid Persia to medieval Spain has tied one of the Louvre's most famous objects to the battle between Christians and Muslims for control of the Kingdom of Saragossa in the 12th century.

The Eleanor Vase is a hand-carved pear-shaped vessel of rock crystal, mounted in precious metals studded with jewels. It was for centuries in the treasury of the Abbey of St Denis, the gift of the great Abbot Suger in the 1140s. Since the French Revolution, it has been in the Louvre. It was "one of the celebrated treasures of the time", according to Professor George Beech, of Western Michigan University.

Abbot Suger added an inscription with the history of the crystal vessel, then already at least 500 years old: "As a bride Eleanor gave this vase to King Louis, Mitadolus to her grandfather, the King to me, and Suger to the Saints".

Eleanor herself, one of the greatest heiresses of the Middle Ages, was the daughter of the Duke of Aquitaine, and married first Louis VII of France and then Henry II of England. The mother of Richard the Lionheart and King John, she led her own troops on the Second Crusade in her twenties, and crushed the Anjou rebellion against John when she was nearly 80.

Her wedding gift to Louis VII, the crystal vase, had probably been made in Sassanid Persia between the 3rd and 7th centuries, Professor Beech notes in *Medieval Life*. Covered with honeycomb facets to catch the light, it is a rare survival of a material believed to have magical healing powers, and one which fetched very high prices in medieval times.

The Mitadolus who gave the vase to Eleanor's grandfather has always been a mystery, but Professor Beech believes that he can be identified not as a Middle Eastern potentate, but as Imad al-dawla Abd al-Malik ibn-Hud, the Muslim ruler of Saragossa in north-eastern Spain from 1110 to 1130.

In 1119-20 William IX of Aquitaine played an important part in the Aragonese reconquest of Saragossa, the capital of which had been taken from Imad al-dawla by the more austerely Islamic Almoravids in 1110. William IX brought 600 knights to the battle of Cutanda in 1120, when the Almoravids were defeated, and the vase seems to have been a thank-you gift from al-dawla to the duke, before or after the battle on June 17.

"It is now clear that this dazzling piece is a survival of the great wars of the Reconquest. It did not pass into Christian Europe as booty, but following collaboration in which the last ruler of a native Muslim dynasty in Spain sought to preserve his kingdom by an alliance with invading Christians," Professor Beech concludes.

Source: *Medieval Life* 3:12-16.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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FAX: 0171 481 9313

You are no longer aliens in a foreign land, but fellow citizens with God's people, members of God's household.
Ephesians 2 : 19 (REB)

BIRTHS

ACWORTH - On 26th January 1996, at Haywards Heath, to Caroline and Robert, a son, Flynn, a brother for Theo.

ADDISON - On January 23rd, to Richard and Philippa (née Wahlen), a son, Oliver Quincey Philip, a brother for William.

ANGELL - On 27th January, to Helen (née Webber) and Tim, a daughter, Megan Rose, a sister for Bethany.

BERRY - On 26th January, to Wendy and Jason, a daughter Siobhán May, a sister for Aisling.

CALDERON-LEVY - On 25th January, at The Portland Hospital, to Pablo and Eliana, a beautiful baby boy, Eduardo, a little brother for Lidia.

COLLIS - On 23rd January, to Geoff and Judith, a son, Benjamin Joseph Geoffrey, a brother for Elliott.

CULLEN - On 17th January, to Julia (née Tolhurst) and James, a son, Charles James, a brother for Katie and Naomi.

ECHANIZ - On January 22nd, at The Portland Hospital, Maria Elena and Jose are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their beautiful son, Joseph Andrew

ELLIS - On 4th January, to Clare (née Hoult) and Tom, a daughter, Penelope Katherine.

FREEMAN - On January 25th, at The Portland Hospital, to Daryl (née Helman) and Howard, a gorgeous daughter, Georgia Alex.

GREENER - On January 24th, to Amanda (née Milligan) and Robert, a son, Daniel Thomas (7lbs 14oz), a brother for Sarah.

HERRING - On 16th January, to Sheila (née Simpson-Lawrence) and Stephen, a son, Ralph Stephen Lawrence.

HUTLEY - On Thursday 25th January 1996, to Louise (née Blacker) and Edward a daughter, sister for Iona Mary Anne and Francis Peter Valentine.

KAZUKI - On January 25th, at The Portland Hospital, to Jiro and Akiko Ozawa, a beautiful son.

KEARNS - On 24th January 1996, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Maureen (née Lowrie) and Christopher, a son, William Henry, a brother for Harriet.

KESHAVARZ-MOORE - On January 24th, at The Portland Hospital, to Eli and Richard, a baby boy, Saam Elliott, a brother to Arya-Nousheh.

McKELVEY-AVES - On 20th January, Nick and Julia are delighted to announce the arrival of their son, Henry.

MURPHY - On January 24th, at The Portland Hospital, to Sarah and Peter, a beautiful daughter, a sister for John, Gerald, James and Elizabeth.

OWENS - On January 26th, at The Portland Hospital, to Lucy (née Osborne) and Adrian, a precious baby girl, Charlotte.

PEARSON - On January 19th, to Rhona (née Luke) and Tim, a son, Jack Luke Thomas, a brother for Douglas.

SIMPSON-LAWRENCE - See Herring.

SPOWERS - On January 13th in Melbourne, to Celeste (née Kershaw) and Adam, a daughter, Eloise Marie Victoria, a sister for Ophelia.

THOMAS - To Marc and Janice, a son, David Charles Morgan (Charlie), born on 11th January at Kingston Hospital. A beautiful brother for Annabel and Lara.

URQUHART - On 24th January 1996, to Duncan and Tracey, a son, James Edward Darwin.

WORRALL - On January 15th, at The Portland Hospital, to Caroline (née Stobart) and Mark, a son, Michael John St LA.

MARRIAGES

BRAMALL: REEVE - On January 27th, at St Michael Playden, Mr John Bramall, formerly of Cottenden, Stonegate and Miss Anne Reeve of Lea Farmhouse, Peasmarsh, Rye.

DEATHS

ABSE - Marjorie on January 27th 1996, wife of Leo and mother of Tobias and Bathsheba. Service at Mortlake Crematorium on Friday 2nd February at 3.00 pm. Enquiries to Ballard and Barker (0181) 560 7499.

ANLEY - Clare. Suddenly on January 26th 1996. Widow of Philip and mother of Juliet and Sarah. Service on Monday February 5th at 2.30 pm at South Creake Church, Norfolk, followed by family burial. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to St. Matthew Society, 4 The Old Church, St Matthew's Road, Norwich NR1 1SP.

BAGGALLAY - On January 29th 1996, peacefully at home, Ethel Valerie Bromfield (née Thomas), of Appleshaw, Hampshire, dearly loved and loving wife of the late Merrik and mother of Janet, Roger and Jody and much loved grandmother, aunt and friend. Funeral service at St. Peter-in-the-Wood, Appleshaw, on Friday February 2nd at 2.15pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but, if desired, donations to Parkinson's Disease Society, 22 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0RA.

BELL - Mary Wynne (Molly). Peacefully on 28th January, beloved wife of "Bill", dear mother of Elizabeth and Simon and adored grandmother. Cremation private. Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's Church, Chiddingfold on Friday 2nd February at 3 pm. No flowers please, any donations to St Mary's Church Chiddingfold.

COOTE - On January 28th 1996, Zuleikah Paton aged 97 years, widow of Tom Coote. Funeral Service at Woking St Johns Crematorium, on Tuesday February 6th at 3.00pm. Family flowers only donations if desired to 'The First Church of Christian Science' c/o Woking Funeral Service. Tel: (01483) 772266.

CURTIS - David, on Saturday January 27th, in Geneva Illinois. Husband of Dorothy and late of Reading University, Samaru, and Dekalb, USA.

DAY - Margaret Katherine Bricknell, MA (Peggie), suddenly at Wexham Park on 24th January 1996, aged 76. Greatly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral at St. Mary's Church, Hedgerley Monday 5th February at 12.30. Flowers or donations to The British Heart Foundation if desired c/o E. W. Sargeant & Son, 40 Church Street, Slough SL1 1PJ Tel: (01753) 520081.

DE HEDEY - Sister Mary de Britto S.H.C.J. On January 27th peacefully at Hastings after a long illness patiently borne. Requiem Mass on Thursday 1st February at 2.30pm in the Mayfield Convent Chapel. Tel: (01435) 873 667. No flowers, donations to: The Mayfield Appeal Fund.

FIELD REID - Eric (Jerry) F.I.C.E. Peacefully at home after a short illness on 26th January, aged 93 years. Much loved by his devoted wife Mary. Funeral Service Friday 2nd February St Mary's Parish Church, Polstead, at 12 noon followed by burial in the Churchyard. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired for The Suffolk Preservation Society or St Mary's Church Polstead, may be sent to Co-operative Funeral Service, Wimpole Road, Colchester.

FISHER - On January 28, 1996 peacefully in Cheltenham Kenneth John Fisher, aged 87 years. Much loved husband of Beryl, dear father of Charles, Diana, Sarah and Patsy and loving grandfather. Funeral service at Christ Church, Malvern Road, Cheltenham, at 11.00 am on Friday February 2 1996. Family flowers only please but, if desired, donations may be sent to the St Paul's Senior Resident's Association, 1 Wendover Gardens, Cheltenham, Glos.

GOMER - On 24th January, Maureen, in St. Pancras Hospital. Funeral on Monday 5th February 1996 at 2.15pm at Golders Green Crematorium (East Chapel). Flowers or donations to Help the Aged. Enquiries to A. France & Son Ltd. Tel: (0171) 405 4901.

HOLLOWAY - On 26th January 1996, peacefully at home in Wadhurst, Anne (née Gaylor). Devoted wife of Claude, loving mother to Paul, Hugh and her late daughter Susan (Bourke) and wonderful Grandy to Hannah, Edward, Eamon, Kirsty, Orlando, Sophie, Alice, Aidan, Susan, Archie and Maude. Funeral Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Wadhurst, East Sussex on Friday 2nd February 1996 at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to The Hospice in the Weald, c/o C. Waterhouse & Sons, High Street, Burwash, TN19 7ET. Tel: (01435) 882219.

HUNTER - Patrick Grogan, aged 93. Died peacefully January 27th. Classics Master at Stowe School 1925-1962. Funeral Private. Thanksgiving Service to be announced later.

KAHAN - Valerie (née Bagrit) at Hartland Vermont, USA, on 22nd January 1996. Adored by her children Rachel, Alexander, Mary, Victoria, Joshua and Tobias, and her eight grandchildren. She was the cherished elder daughter of Lady Stella and the late Sir Leon Bagrit and sister of Patricia Fleur.

KINGSFORD - On 20th January 1996 suddenly Anthony Lethbridge (Tony) Kingsford of Bilbrook Minehead aged 63 years. Funeral Service to take place at the Taunton Deane Crematorium today, Tuesday 30th January at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired for Dr Barnardos may be sent c/o Taunton Funeral Service, Windsor Place, Whitehall, Taunton.

KINGSFORD - On 20th January 1996, suddenly Anthony Lethbridge (Tony) Kingsford, of Bilbrook, Minehead, aged 63 years. Funeral service to take place at Taunton Deane Crematorium on Tuesday 30th January at 2.30pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired for Dr Barnardo's may be sent c/o Taunton Funeral Service, Windsor Place, Whitehall, Taunton.

LEONARD - On Friday January 26th 1996 at Bristol Children's Hospital, Katie Elizabeth aged 2 years, cherished daughter of Richard & Jayne, of Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan, very much loved by all who knew her. Family and friends please meet for Funeral Service at St. Mary Nolton Church, Bridgend on Thursday February 1st at 10 am. Followed by private interment at Merthyrmawr Church, family flowers only by request please, but donations to Intensive Care Unit, Bristol Children's Hospital, may be sent to Hywel Watts, Zoar Chapel of Rest, Maesteg. Tel. 01656 735167/ 734829.

MILLIGAN - Patrick Desmond Laing, beloved husband of Mhairi and adored father of Richard, Mark and Louise, Nicko, Max and Melissa. Sailed away from his favourite armchair on January 25th, having spread kindness, warmth, fun, love and laughter to all around him for 77 years. The funeral will take place at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, at 4 pm on Thursday 1st February. Donations if desired, to the R.N.L.I.

MOBERLY - On Saturday January 27th peacefully at Bideford, Elsie Mary, aged 93, daughter of Brig Gen and Mrs F J Moberly. Beloved aunt and great aunt. Cremation at North Devon Crematorium on Friday February 2nd at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to R.N.L.I. Appledore Lifeboat, c/o Trapnell & Sherborne, Park House, Park Avenue, Bideford, North Devon.

MORCOM - On 26th January, suddenly and peacefully at home in his 90th year, Dr. Alfred Rupert, beloved and loving husband of Mary (died 1994), greatly loved father of John, Christopher and Isobel, and devoted grandpa to his eight grandchildren. Funeral at St. Andrew's Church, Ombersley, 2.00 p.m. Tuesday 6th February. Cremation private. Flowers c/o E.J. Gummery & Son, (01905) 22094.

METCOTT - On 24th January peacefully, Cecil Henry aged 82 years. Will be sadly missed by wife Peggy and daughter Rosamond. The funeral service will be private but a service of thanksgiving will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Burrington on Saturday 3rd February at 11.00 am. Family flowers only please but donations may be sent for the Solicitors' Benevolent Association c/o Arthur E. Davey & Sons Funeral Directors, 82 Silver Street, Nailsea, BS19 2DS. Tel: (01275) 852307.

ORTON - On January 26th 1996, peacefully in hospital, Henry Ralph aged 83. Dearly loved husband of Elizabeth and father of Rosemary and Andrew, much loved stepfather and grandfather. Family cremation, Thanksgiving Service to be arranged later.

PEARCE - Captain Percy George, 70, at his home in Rondebosch, South Africa on 20th January 1996. Much loved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral Service and interment at St Matthews Church, Rowde, Wiltshire on Monday 5th February at 2.30pm.

SMEDLEY - Jean aged 83, died peacefully on January 27th 1996 in the devoted care of Clare Hall Nursing Home, Widow of Graham and dearly beloved mother of John, Anne and Peter. The funeral will take place at 12 noon on Saturday February 3rd at St. Mary's Church, Ston Easton, Somerset.

SUFFERN - On 24th January 1996 peacefully, Jemima Lorraine, much loved wife of the late Philip Suffern. Cremation on Tuesday, 6th February at Golders Green Crematorium at 2.45 p.m. (East Chapel). Family flowers only, but if desired donations to Save the Children Fund, c/o A. France & Son, 45 Lamb's Conduit Street, London WC1N 3NH.

SWIFT - John Frederick, peacefully at home, on 24th January 1996. Dearly loved husband of Mary and father of Victoria, Lucy and Kate. Funeral Service at St. Paul's Church, Rectory Grove, Clapham at 12.30 pm on Monday, 5th February, followed by private cremation. No flowers, please, but if desired, donations to Trinity Hospice, c/o Ashton's, 369 Clapham Road, SW9 9BX.

TOWNSEND - Albert Frederick, beloved father of Angela, grandfather of Lorraine and Steven, died peacefully at Royal Hospital, Chelsea aged 85 years. Cremation has taken place, service on February 5th at 12.45 p.m. Brookwood Cemetery (Old Plot), Brookwood, Surrey. No flowers please, but donations can be sent to the Royal Hospital Chelsea Chapel Fund.

WAKEMAN - On January 28th, peacefully in The Radbrook Nursing Home, Shrewsbury, Joceline Etheldreda, widow of Sir Offley Wakeman, Baronet, loving mother of Edward Wakeman, in her 103rd year. Funeral: Private cremation: Thanksgiving service and interment of Ashes at St. Peter and St Paul's Church, Fitz on Tuesday 6th February at 11 o'clock. Family flowers only please. Donations if wished, to Fitz Church or Shropshire Branch of Multiple Sclerosis.

WATSON - On 23rd January 1996, peacefully in The Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath, Diana Stephanie of Lindfield. Much loved wife of the late Ambrose and mother of Priscilla, Christopher and Timothy. Private Cremation Service but all are welcome to the Service of Thanksgiving to be held at The Church of the Good Shepherd, Franklands Village, West Sussex on Tuesday 6th February at 2.00pm. Family flowers only but donations to The Corporation of The Sons of the Clergy, may be sent c/o Masters and Son, 4 Denmans Lane, Lindfield, West Sussex. RH16 2LB.

WEATHERILL - Lottie, widow of Harry, late of Burnham Beeches, died peacefully 26th January. Funeral at Amersham Crematorium, 12 noon, Saturday 3rd February.

WOODRUFF - On 26th January 1996, peacefully in Kent & Canterbury Hospital, Beatrice (Betty) aged 86. Dear mother of John, much loved grandma of John and Jacqueline. Funeral at Hawkinge Crematorium near Folkestone, Tuesday February 6th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to The British Heart Foundation, c/o Lyons Funeral Directors, 70 Military Road, Canterbury. Tel. (01227) 463608.

YORK - (née Langham) Enid Lena, aged 88, widow of T.J.P. York, former Headmaster of Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby. Died peacefully on 28th January. Funeral to be held at All Saints Church, Hastings Old Town, on Friday February 2nd at 2.30pm. Flowers to Towner 01424 436386.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

POLLARD - Remembering today as always my beloved parents Elizabeth and Albert, who died 30th January and 4th February 1963. Joy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TRETHOWAN - Sir William. Heather Trethowan would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy during her recent bereavement.

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OBITUARIES

JOSEPH BRODSKY

Joseph Brodsky, poet and winner of the 1987 Nobel Prize for Literature, died apparently from a heart attack on January 28 aged 55. He was born on May 24, 1940.

MEMORY cannot be exiled: the solace of this has always sustained the Russian absentee. Gogol evoked the Russian landscape in Rome: Nabokov built his palaces of intricate Russian detail in America. Joseph Brodsky, like Nabokov an exiled Russian who became an American citizen, was the great postwar poet of memory and exilic yearning.

Joseph Brodsky was born in Leningrad (now St Petersburg), the only child of modest but bookish Jewish parents. Continuing a great tradition of Russian writing, he was to become both a celebrant and elegist of his native city. The Brodskys lived in a once-stylish, turn-of-the-century apartment block, divided into the usual tiny spaces, providing the family with what he later called "a room and a half". The "half" was the young Brodsky's bedroom, where he hoarded his books and wrote his first poems.

What he described in an essay as "the most beautiful city on the face of the earth" made a much deeper impression than his schooling at a large, faceless modern grammar school in town. At 15, partly out of boredom and also an urge to contribute to his family finances, he walked out of his classroom and got a job as a milling machine operator at an armaments factory. He later worked in a morgue. He was already writing poems. Four appeared in St Petersburg anthologies in 1966 and 1967: the celebrated poet Anna Akhmatova recognised in him a new voice in Russian poetry, and arranged a meeting between Brodsky and Osip Mandelstam's widow, Nadezhda. If St Petersburg's faded imperial splendours gave Brodsky an abiding poetic theme, then the futile cruelties of the Soviet State provided him with another.

He once described his parents, both doughty individualists, as "State-resistant": yet it was their son whose resistance was to be most tested. At the age of 24, Brodsky was sentenced to five years in a prison camp in northern Russia. The charge was "parasitism": at this time he was neither employed (he was writing poems), nor was he a member of the Writers' Union. "The surest defence against evil," he once wrote, "is extreme individualism, originality of thinking, whimsicality." It was a principle he mobilised during the trial, which produced this singular encounter:

Prosecutor: What is your occupation?

Brodsky: I am a poet.

Prosecutor: Who included you in the list of poets?

Brodsky: Who included me in the list of human beings?

It was in prison (where he served only 18 months) that he first came across the poetry of W. H. Auden. It was to change his life. The poem he stumbled upon, in a poor Russian translation, was Auden's elegy to W. B. Yeats, written in 1939 as tyranny threatened, with its command to the poet to turn poetry into a moral force:

Follow, poet, follow right
To the bottom of the night,
With your unconstraining voice . . .
In the prison of his days,
Teach the free man how to praise.

Sitting in his cell, reading Auden, Brodsky began to develop his antagonistic humanism, and his lifelong optimism about the connection between good art and good actions ("evil, especially political evil, is always a bad stylist," was one of his many memorable aphorisms).

Because of Auden, he started to learn English (in which he was later to write some of his poetry and all of his essays): more immediately, Auden smoothed his passage to America. The older poet had already read some of Brodsky's poems in translation, and had liked them well enough to offer to write an introduction for an English selection. When Brodsky was expelled from the Soviet Union on June 4, 1972, with a one-way ticket to Israel, via Vienna, he quickly made his way to Auden in person.

At Vienna he was met by Carl Proffer, Professor of Russian at the University of Michigan. The two men travelled to Auden's summer house outside Vienna, in Kirchstetten. Auden, wrote Brodsky, looked after the new exile "with the diligence of a good mother hen". Grants were organised and a job — poet-in-residence at Michigan — secured.

Selected Poems was published in England by Penguin in 1973. It was difficult at times properly to assess the originality of Brodsky's voice through the occasionally awkward English translations. But the best poems, like the long dialogue in verse *Gorbunov and Gorchakov*, which mixed exquisite descriptions of St Petersburg with a political restiveness, revealed a startling maturity. These early poems (some of which were written in Brodsky's early twenties) spoke with the authority of tradition, full of allusion and historical reference.

America treated Brodsky well: after Michigan, he had visiting professorships at Smith and Columbia. In 1978, in recognition of his growing stature in the anglophone world, Yale gave him an honorary doctorate, and in 1981 he won a lucrative MacArthur Foundation grant. But his life in exile was tinged with sadness. His parents made repeated attempts to visit their son, but were told that it would be "unpurposeful". In the end, even a son's attendance at his mother's funeral was deemed unpurposeful.

In his moving essay *In a Room and a Half*, Brodsky described hearing the news of his mother's death, generalising it into the bereavement of exile itself: "And then it's too late, and a man or a woman puts the receiver down and walks out of the door into the foreign afternoon feeling something neither language has words for, and for which no howl will suffice."

In 1980 Brodsky published *A Part of Speech*, his first book to include verse composed in English. Exile, it was clear, had given his work a melancholy, but also a cosmopolitanism. The city was a presence in almost every poem, but now it was New York or Venice or London (where Brodsky came regularly to work during summers). And, in some ways, the city was none of these places but a city of the mind, a St Petersburg of the memory. "I, too, once lived in a city whose cornices used to court the clouds," begins one poem. Or this, more simply and poignantly: "Those who forgot me would make a city." Memory emerged in this work as a challenge to the rigidities and forward-marching of the communist State, for memory goes its own way, is "never linear". Again, what seemed most remarkable about this verse was its deep intellectual currents, its learnedness, allied to a marvellous skill for extended metaphors and a real visual power.

But it was in Brodsky's essays — which first appeared in 1986 — that his descriptions of St Petersburg reached their most glorious pitch. *Less Than One: Selected Essays* was his most accessible work, and reached a new audience. While some English-speaking critics had been unsure about the success of Brodsky's poems in original English, there could be no doubting the quality and sureness of his prose.

Lucid, cool, but passionately ironical, Brodsky used the essay-form to tell the story of his early Russian life, to structure his humanism and his fierce contempt for communism: above all to describe a lost world. It is, for instance, difficult to forget Brodsky's image of St Petersburg's River Neva as a spool of film, constantly unwinding — "It's as if the city were constantly being filmed by its river, which discharges its footage into the Gulf of Finland."

This book, quite as much as the poems, won him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1987. He became the first Russian writer to win the prize since Pasternak. His acceptance speech was one of the most commanding defences of literature's moral purpose ever made by a Nobel laureate. Aesthetics is the mother of ethics, claimed Brodsky. Because we understand beauty, we also understand suffering. It was useless to say that there could be no poetry after Auschwitz. For every Auschwitz, a Russian camp could be named, he said. Yet the existence of human barbarism did not invalidate the moral tuition that art offers to all who will take it: "I believe — not empirically, alas, but only theoretically — that for someone who has read a lot of Dickens to shoot his like in the name of an idea is harder than for someone who has read no Dickens." This was not a matter of literacy, for Lenin, Hitler and Stalin all read books. But imaginative literature has as its subject "human diversity and perversity . . . What these men had in common was that their hit-list was longer than their reading list."

In 1988 a selection of verse spanning 1965 to 1985 was published and, in 1992, Brodsky produced a ravishing book on Venice, a city he had enjoyed since his early years in exile. Venice, like St Petersburg, is a city of reflections and watery light: in this book (really a sort of long prose poem) it was turned into a kind of Utopian heaven, where the very window-shutters became the spreading "wings of angels".

Here he had come in his early thirties, when newly exiled. At the heart of Europe, in this exquisite Italian simulacrum of his beloved home town, the poet and exile had found his first consolation. It is, alas, a mournfully appropriate final book.

He is survived by his wife Maria and their daughter, and by a natural son.

MALDWYN ROWLANDS

Maldwyn Rowlands, OBE, Chief Librarian at the Natural History Museum, 1965-81, died on December 29 aged 77. He was born on March 7, 1918.

IN 1965, when Maldwyn Rowlands was appointed Chief Librarian of the Natural History Museum in South Kensington, he was only the fourth holder of the post. The museum had been founded in 1881, and Rowlands succeeded Alexander Townsend, who had died in a railway accident. Whereas his three predecessors had been scholar librarians, Rowlands was a self-made professional librarian who began his career in a manual grade at the Science Museum Library next door. He had worked his way to the top by sheer hard work and some inspirational job changes.

Born into a mid-Wales farming family at Newtown, Montgomeryshire (now in Powys), Maldwyn Jones Rowlands was educated locally. He abandoned the Welsh hills for London, and his first job was as a clerk in a City firm. Early in 1936 he joined the staff of the Science Museum Library in South Kensington as an attendant. It was a lowly grade which called for largely manual and manipulative skills but Rowlands was soon helping with professional cataloguing duties.

In 1940 he joined the Royal Army Pay Corps. On demobilisation he rejoined the staff of the Science Museum Library, and by 1951 had become a cataloguer and compiler of the library's *Handlist of Periodicals*. Under the keepership of H. T. Pledge at this time, and before a national lending library for science had been founded, the Science Museum Library was performing this function successfully.

Rowlands honed his experience with professional qualifications, embarking in 1950 on a ruthless course of self-tuition, wholly in his own time, to achieve associateship (in 1954) and fellowship (in 1961) of the Library Association.

In 1954 he transferred to the Natural History Museum Library. A new senior post had been established there to supervise cataloguing, to start publication of an accessions list and to prepare a handlist of periodicals. His appointment occurred during the directorship of Sir Gavin de Beer, and the two men collaborated on a series of papers published in the museum's *Bulletin* between 1959 and 1961 on the transcription and significance of Darwin's notebooks on the transmutation of species.

In 1961 Rowlands was promoted to deputy librarian at the museum on the retirement of G. W. F. Claxton and held this post until 1963, when he moved to the Patent Office Library to become deputy to the charismatic Maysie Webb. In 1965 he returned to the Natural History Museum as Chief Librarian, and remained there until his retirement in 1981.

His biggest administrative success at the museum was the move to establish a department of library services in 1975, when management of the museum's departmental and general libraries was centralised. Rowlands was the department's first head.

There was an almost exponential growth of services and systems at the Natural History Museum Library during his period in office, at a time when growth of staff and stock were measured and measurable facets of successful performance.

As an administrator he relied just as much on his canny Welsh farming instincts as on his professional librarian's skills. His management of people was based on two principles: acquire the necessary experience of all types of work to provide a clear understanding of how things are really done; and manage people with sensitivity to their needs and sympathy for their worries, but at the same time leave them in no doubt as to what is required of them. He was appointed OBE in 1981.

He is survived by his wife Sybil, whom he married in 1941, and by two sons and a daughter.

IAN DAWSON-SHEPHERD

Ian Dawson-Shepherd, founder of the Spastics Society (now Scope), died on January 8 aged 80. He was born on September 23, 1915.

AS A charity campaigner Ian Dawson-Shepherd will be remembered for his vision and drive, and for his determination to transform the lives of all those suffering from cerebral palsy. With his own daughter a victim of the condition, he was appalled to discover the lack of provision that then prevailed. He joined forces with two other parents, Alex Moira and Eric Hodgson, and with a social worker, Jean Garwood. Together they launched a campaign which was to lead in 1952 to the formation of the National Spastics Society.

The early success of the Spastics Society's founders is almost legendary. With only £5 in the kitty, they launched a fundraising drive which generated £1 million in just five years. The money made it possible to establish schools, residential units and a growing network of local support groups and to fund a public campaign for a change in attitudes to — and the improvement of services for — disabled people.

Dawson-Shepherd's style was unorthodox. He insisted that charities should be run like businesses, a view well ahead of his time. He saw a clear distinction between the roles of volunteers and professionals: volunteer directors responsible for policy and long-term planning working with professional managers getting on with running the organisation without interference.

His approach was always "think big, think professional". In 1957 he worked with a leading pools company to pioneer a fundraising arrangement which was to earn the society £2 million annually. With the help of Sheila Rawstorne, the society's first secretary, and the radio broadcasters Wilfred and Mabel Pickles, Dawson-Shepherd also established SOS, the Stars Organisation Supporting action for people with cerebral palsy.

Throughout his life Ian Dawson-Shepherd was a tireless advocate of research into the causes of cerebral palsy. In 1960 he was instrumental in securing funds from the Spastics Society for the establishment, under the direction of Professor Paul Polani, of the Paediatric Research Unit at Guy's Hospital. In 1990 Dawson-Shepherd and Polani founded the Little Foundation to fund a £100 million global research programme into the causes of neurological disorders — including autism, cerebral palsy, dyslexia and epilepsy.

Although he regularly crossed swords with the society's executive council and others who disagreed with his challenging and sometimes maverick approach, Dawson-Shepherd won the admiration and respect of all those with whom he worked.

The death of his own daughter, afflicted by cerebral palsy, in 1986 caused him great sadness: but he did not allow it to lessen his commitment to his life's work.

Ian Dawson-Shepherd is survived by his second wife, Margaret K. Johns, and by his five remaining daughters.

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THE INCENDIARISM IN THE YORKSHIRE WOLDS.

At the Court-house, Great Driffield, in the East Riding of Yorkshire, on Wednesday last, before Sir Henry Boyton, Sir Christopher Sykes, Captain Nelson, Captain Broosbank, and a full bench of magistrates, Lord Wenlock, the Vice-Lieutenant of the East Riding, presiding, John Sterwood, *alias* "Snaffling Jock", a notorious "Wold ranger", a ticket-of-leave man, was brought up by Sergeant James Thompson, of the Detective Department, Scotland-yard, charged with maliciously setting fire to the stackyard of Mr. John Burdess, at Thring, on the 21st of October last, and destroying corn to the value of £1,200. He was further charged with wilfully firing the off stackyards of Mr. Hall, of Butterwick; and Mr Andersons, of Butterwick; and Mr. Specks, of Boythorpe, on the night of the 18th of November last. The prosecution was conducted by Mr. Clark (Leeman and Clark), York, solicitors for the East Riding. The court was densely crowded, and the examination lasted two days. From the evidence it was clearly shown that the prisoner and two other Wold rangers, named "Slenderman" and Ben Wilson, met in a lane about half a mile from Mr. Burdess's stackyard on the afternoon before the fire. They had a stick fire in the lane, and they then agreed to fire Mr. Burdess's stackyard, as they had heard that he had £180 in the house, and while the men would be at the fire to go to the farmhouse and "turn the crib over"—ransack it. The prisoner, in the meantime, was to proceed to Mr. Staveley's farm, two miles distant, and ask to be allowed to sleep in the chaff-house, and to be locked in. During the night he was to leave the stable, proceed to Thring, fire the stackyard of Mr. Burdess, rob his house, and then to return to Mr. Staveley's stable and be found here the next morning by the farm lads. This was carried out as arranged, except robbing the house, as they ascertained while the fire was raging that Mr Burdess had only £18 in the house. Mr. Burdess deposed that a few days before the fire he sold a quantity of wool, for which he received £400. Not thinking it safe to keep such a sum in the house, he deposited it at his banker's at Bridlington, and at the time of the fire he had only about £20 in the house. Mr Burdess further deposed that the day preceding the fire he was riding round his farm, when he saw the prisoner and two other men in the lane sitting over a stick fire. Sergeant Thomson produced a plan he took of the place in which the prisoner slept on the night of the fire, and it was shown that any one who slept in the chaff-house in the stable could have got out, proceed to Thring, which is two miles distant, and return the same way: and could so fasten the door or window as to give it the appearance of having been undisturbed. The prisoner was committed to take his trial at the ensuing York assizes. Each of the other three cases was consecutively taken, and, conclusive evidence having been given, the prisoner was committed on each charge. Warrants were granted against Slenderman and Ben Wilson, on the application of Sergeant Thompson, of the Detective Department, who had, after six weeks' patient search, apprehended the prisoner Sterwood, three weeks ago, since which no fires have occurred in the district.

ON THIS DAY

January 30, 1864

Cases like this in the East Riding of Yorkshire were not uncommon in the 19th century; today, rural crime is more often sheep and cattle rustling and the stealing of farm equipment.

Internet 'offers a big chance to small firms'

By Rodney Hobson

THE Internet is likely to generate thousands of new businesses as it changes the way business is done, according to research by Durham University Business School (Dubs). However, small firms that act as intermediaries between buyer and seller are at risk, the school says.

The study, sponsored by NatWest Bank, is based on experimentally introducing access to the Internet to small and medium-sized businesses. Dubs says that although technical problems still need to be overcome, there is likely to be a rapid increase in electronic commerce in the next two years.

Dubs estimates that Internet users are increasing, worldwide, by 500,000 a month, forming a new, high-value market for small firms. About 300,000 computers in the UK are linked to the Internet. The speed with which small businesses join will depend on access and connection costs, Dubs says.

The researchers predict that:

☐ Within two years, secure trading and payment on publicly accessible computer networks will be normal;

☐ Every enterprise dealing with the computer-literate public or business-to-business markets will need to use electronic mail or to transfer information via computer networks;

☐ Small firms will adapt to electronic commerce more quickly than big ones. Some have sprung up to advise on electronic commerce.

Ted Fuller, director of Dubs's *Foresight*, which published the study, says: "The Internet is providing one of the single biggest opportunities for small firms. This is because the way of doing business on the Net builds on personal relationships, which mirrors the natural behaviour of small firms." Many already use e-mail rather than the costlier fax or telephone, he says.

The main threat is seen as being to small firms that add no value to a transaction other than bringing buyers and sellers together. Mr Fuller says: "The trend started by direct insurance services and direct selling is likely to continue through the Internet."

Firms currently protected by barriers of time and distance face more competition from foreign companies.

"In my case, getting stressed isn't a complaint — it's a job description!"

Standing out from the crowd

Jennai Cox visits a company that turned over £300,000 in its first year from an idea spotted on TV

STEVE FORREST

Getting ahead in business: Frank Lawrence, centre, with Jackie his wife, and John Foster, his partner

Watching football on television in March 1994 gave Frank Lawrence the idea for a quality headwear business which turned over £300,000 in its first year. As the camera panned the match, Mr Lawrence's attention was caught not by the goals but by how many of the crowd were wearing hats. Having been made redundant as a special clothes cutter for the fourth time, he thought that with 40 years' pattern-making and management experience, he could succeed in the hat business.

After a seven-year apprenticeship with Burton and working on made-to-measure suits at Burberrys for 12 years, Mr Lawrence decided to concentrate on the quality market. He teamed up with John Foster, a salesman with contacts in the industry with whom he had worked at a company in Bristol, and Lawrence and Foster was formed. Orders worth £90,000 helped to secure a Coal Board grant and money from the West Yorkshire Small Firms Fund before production began in a factory at Castleford in August 1994.

"Because of the places John and I had worked, it really wasn't too difficult to find customers," said Mr Lawrence. "We sent out samples and the response was amazing." John Foster describes their customer base as "Rolls-Royce", situated mainly on London's Piccadilly, Oxford Street and Bond Street. Supplying retailers in this market, who sell hats close to the £100 mark, means using only the very best materials. Most are made from cashmere, tweeds, saxony wools, pure new wools and loden fabrics and lined with satin, silk or viscose.

Buying equipment and materials proved difficult at times. They had to make their own hat-steamer, and only one company in the country makes the wooden blocks used to shape the hats. Whereas more than 100 companies used to make quality headwear, only two remain.

Mr Lawrence is said by Jackie, his wife, and Anne Louise, his daughter, both of whom he employs, to be a perfectionist. All hats are checked for size and matching patterns at every stage of production and within minutes of seeing a design, he can gauge whether he can reproduce it. About 50,000 hats in 29 designs including deerstalkers, branhams and the ryde used by women golfers, were made in the first year. This should double in 1996 with more women's hats, many for export to America, Spain and Germany.

☐ Norwich and Peterborough Building Society has launched three fixed-price mortgages for buying or remortgaging commercial properties, such as shops, industrial units, offices, public houses and nursing homes. Mortgages, for a minimum £30,000, can be for up to 25 years, with rates fixed for up to five.

☐ Almost a third of employees recruited by small businesses in the past year came from the unemployed, according to NatWest Bank's *Quarterly Survey*. The proportion rises to 47 per cent for businesses employing fewer than five people.

☐ A guide to private finance for small enterprises, including information on business angels — individuals investing in private companies — will be available at Lloyds Bank branches from tomorrow. John Spence, head of business banking, said: "Business angels are a significant, but generally untapped, source of skills, as well as funds." Details on *Private Finance for Growing Firms*: 0117 943 3104.

☐ Barbara Roche, Labour spokesman on small business, will deliver *Project North East's* annual lecture on February 12 at the Design Works, Gateshead. Details: Julia Watson on 0191 261 7856.

☐ A free advice day for anyone returning to work after a break looking after children or sick relatives will be held by Surrey Training and Enterprise Council at Guildford Civic Hall on February 9.

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Proving director's guilty knowledge

Attorney-General's Reference (No 1 of 1995)
Regina v B
Regina v F

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Brooke and Mr Justice Forbes

[Judgment January 23]

The state of mind that had to be proved against a company director charged with consenting to the company accepting a deposit without an authorisation or licence from the Bank of England was that he knew the material facts which constituted the offence by the company and agreed to its conduct in its business on the basis of those facts.

The decision was given in the Court of Appeal's opinion on a point of law referred by the Attorney-General to the court under section 36 of the Criminal Justice Act 1972 after the two respondents, B and F, were acquitted on a submission of no case to answer on two counts, withdrawn from the jury at Teesside Crown Court by Judge Fox.

The counts had charged them each with accepting, contrary to section 3 of the Banking Act 1987, a deposit of thousands of pounds from a person in the course of carrying on a business which for the purpose of the 1987 Act was a deposit-taking business, the respondents being directors of the company and its offence being committed with their consent, they were thereby guilty of the offence by virtue of section 96(1).

Section 3 provides: "(1) ... no person shall ... accept a deposit in the course of carrying on ... a business which ... is a deposit-taking business unless that person is an institution for the time being authorised by the Bank [of England] under ... this Act."

Section 96 provides: "(1) Where an offence under this Act committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent ... *of any director ... of* the body corporate ... he, as well as the body corporate, shall be guilty of that offence..."

Mr Michael Worsley, QC and Mr Neville Spencer-Lewis for the Attorney-General; Mr Peter Collier, QC and Mr Jeremy Barnett *for the respondents.*

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the opinion of the court, said that the respondents were convicted of several counts charged under section 35 of the 1987 Act, fraudulent inducement to make a deposit, and were sentenced to imprisonment.

F was the chairman of a small insurance/investment brokerage company and B was his right-hand man. From 1987 onwards the company was accepting deposits in the course of carrying on a deposit-taking business and both respondents were directly concerned in that activity. Some £750,000 was deposited.

Depositors were told that the money would be *lent on* as bridging loans, for which the company would hold charges as security. In fact the money was diverted into a nightclub venture which failed and most of it was lost.

The charges on which the *respondents were convicted were* based on representations made to the depositors.

The company was not authorised by the Bank of England to accept deposits and the respondents were arrested. In answer to questions by a police officer at an interview which B volunteered, he said that he had never heard of licensed deposit-taking and had no idea that he had to be licensed to do that by the Bank. He had answered "yes" to the police officer's comment: "So that was ignorance of the law".

The two counts withdrawn from the jury alleged specimen offences, each count against both men jointly. At the end of the prosecution case the respondents submitted that there was no case to answer. On their behalf it was argued that, in order to be guilty of the offence of consenting to the offence by the company, a defendant director had to be aware of the relevant facts.

If the director was not aware that the business was, as a matter of fact, deemed to be a deposit-taking business, he could not give informed consent and therefore could not consent to the acceptance of a deposit in contravention of section 3. The submission was that the directors had to be positively aware of the lack of authorisation and to have applied their minds to that fact also.

The trial judge, in an initial ruling stated that on authorities which had been argued before him, but principally *Secretary of State for Trade and Industry v Hart* ([1982] 1 WLR 481), the prosecution would have to prove not only (i) that there was a deposit-taking (ii) that it was in the course of a deposit-taking business and (iii) that there was no licence, but also that the appellants knew and had applied their minds to the fact that there was no licence for them to do that.

In an extended ruling he had held that a section 3 offence was a strict liability offence but was made otherwise concerning directors where a particular awareness had to be proved and there was no evidence of that. For that reason only he withdrew the two counts from the jury.

Mr Worsley, in submitting that the judge was incorrect, relied on the well known principle that ignorance of the law was no excuse. That was not, and could not be, in dispute.

The issue on the reference was what state of mind had to be established against an accused to make him guilty of consenting under section 96(1).

Mr Worsley said that if the person mentioned in section 96(1) *knew the facts which constituted* the offence under section 3(1) committed by the body corporate and consented to that body's affairs being carried on in accordance with those facts, he was guilty of the offence under section 96(1), subject to any defence he might have under section 96(4). It was no defence to say: "I had no idea it was an offence to carry on that business without authorisation from the Bank."

Mr Worsley relied on dicta in *Johnson v Youden* ([1950] 1 KB 544, 546) expressly approved by the House of Lords in *R v Churchill (No 2)* ([1967] 2 AC 224, 236, 237).

Mr Collier's submission, reflected in the judge's ruling, was that unless the accused directors were shown to have addressed their minds specifically to the absence of authorisation or licence they could not be guilty of consenting under section 96(1).

He referred additionally to three cases: *Huckerby v Elliott* ([1970] 1 All ER 189, 195) which concerned an issue of negligence, not directly before their Lordships on the issue of consent; *Westminster City Council v Croyalgrange Ltd* ([1986] 1 WLR 674) *which, dealing with* setting up a sex establishment without a licence, did not support Mr Collier's arguments; and *Secretary of State for Trade and Industry v Hart* ([1982] 1 WLR 481), but that case was crucially different from the present in that *knowledge of the unlawfulness of* acting as an auditor was an ingredient of the offence under section 13(5) of the Companies Act 1976 which had to be proved against the defendant.

His Lordship said that the correct approach was that suggested *by Mr Worsley. A director,* who knew that acts could only be performed by the company if it was licensed by the Bank of England could not be performed when in fact no licence existed, and who consented to that performance was guilty of the offence charged. *The fact that he did not know that* it was an offence to perform *them* without a licence was ignorance of the law, and was no defence.

Ignorance of the law necessarily, in the context of the present case, pointed to a knowledge that the company was operating un*licensed. That was not to say that* section 96(1) created an absolute offence in respect of directors.

There could, for example, in a company with a number of directors responsible for different limbs of the company's business, be a director who believed a licence had been obtained and was not, therefore, consenting to the offences committed by the company. That was not the situation in the present case.

The judge was wrong to withdraw the two counts from the jury.

The questions as set out in the reference were: "(a) Whether on a charge against a company director of consenting to the acceptance of a deposit contrary to section 3(1) and 96(1) of the Banking Act 1987, ignorance of the law as to the requirement of the authorisation of *the Bank of England is a defence;* and (b) what mens rea is required to be proved to show 'consent?'."

The answer to question (a) was "No". To question (b) the answer was that the defendant had to be proved to know the material facts which constituted the offence by the body corporate and to have agreed to its conduct in its business on the basis of those facts.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Headquarters; Walker Morris, Leeds.

Keeper of horses not liable for result of their release

Jaundrill v Gillett

Before Lord Justice Russell and Mr Justice Singer

[Judgment January 16]

The keeper of horses which had been maliciously released on to the road where they panicked and galloped into an oncoming car was not liable to a driver who collided with the horses.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by Robert Gillett against a decision of Mr Recorder Hussain in Manchester County Court on March 30, 1995 in favour of the plaintiff driver, Gary Jaundrill, in the sum of £4,869.65 plus interest of £832 and costs.

Section 2 of the Animals Act 1971 provides:

"(2) Where damage is caused by an animal which does not belong to a dangerous species, a keeper of the animal is liable for the damage, except as otherwise provided by this Act, if: ... (b) the likelihood of the damage or of its being severe was due to characteristics of the animal which are not normally found in animals of the same species or are not normally so found except at particular times or in particular circumstances."

Mr Patrick Field for the defendant; Mr David Allen, QC, for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE RUSSELL said section 2(2)(b) of the 1971 Act had been the subject of adverse judicial comment in the past. The recorder had not had an easy task in dealing with the section.

The plaintiff had been driving in Lytham St Anne's on August 10, 1988. It was dark and he was using his headlights. The lights picked up a number of riderless horses galloping towards the car.

The horses had escaped from a field where they had been kept by the defendant. It was common ground that some malicious intruder had opened a gate and *driven the horses* on to the highway. The quantum of damages had been agreed but the defendant denied liability.

The only issue for the recorder was whether the plaintiff was entitled to rely on what was basically the absolute liability of the keeper of an animal other than a dangerous species.

The plaintiff had relied on the evidence of a veterinary surgeon that a group of horses when moved from their accustomed environment did tend to behave abnormally, and that horses removed from their field on to the road with other horses in the dark would tend to panic and gallop *aimlessly in any direction.*

The recorder had found that the plaintiff had satisfied section 2(2)(b). But his Lordship had grave reservations whether a horse which galloped on a highway and panicked was displaying a characteristic under section 2.

Section 8 of the Act made express provision for the liability of a keeper whose animal escaped on to the highway through his own negligence. But it was unnecessary to come to a conclusion on that aspect of the case.

There had to be a causal link between the animal's characteristic under section 2 and the damage. In his Lordship's view the real and effective cause of the accident was the release of the animals on to the highway. It was the presence of the horses on the highway that was the *cause of the damage sustained.* The appeal would be allowed.

Mr Justice Singer agreed.

Solicitors: James Chapman & Co, Manchester; Pannone & Partners, Manchester.

Lone parent not entitled to disability premium

Rider v Chief Adjudication Officer
Palmer v Same
Doyle v Same

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice McCowan and Lord Justice Thorpe

[Judgment January 23]

The lone parent of a severely disabled child, in receipt of attendance and mobility allowances, had no entitlement under paragraph 13 of Schedule 2 to the Income Support (General) Regulations (SI 1987 No 1967) to have *included in the income support* paid to her a "severe disability premium".

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the applicant, Mrs Daphne Rider, from the dismissal by a social security commissioner (Mrs C. R. Heggs) of her claim *for payment to her* of the premium.

The court also dismissed appeals that raised similar issues by Mr Anthony Palmer and Miss Carole Doyle, both lone parents of a disabled child and in receipt of attendance allowance but not mobility allowance, from refusals by commissisoners (Mrs Heggs and Mr J. B. Morcom, respectively) of their claims to have included in their income support a disability premium under paragraphs 11 and 12 of Schedule 2 to the 1987 Regulations.

Paragraph 13 of Schedule 2 to the 1987 Regulations, headed "Severe Disability Premium", provides for entitlement where: "(1) ... the claimant is a severely disabled person.

"(2) For the purposes of subparagraph (1), a claimant shall be *treated as being a severely disabled* person if, and only if — (a) in the case of a single claimant or a lone parent — (i) he is in receipt of *attendance allowance...*"

Paragraph 13 was amended from April 9, 1990 by the insertion of paragraph 14B into Schedule 2 by regulation 17 of the Income Support (General) Amendment Regulations (SI 1990 No 547).

Mr Richard Drabble, QC, for Mrs Rider; Miss Natalie Lieven for Mr Palmer and Miss Doyle; Mr J. R. McManus for the Chief Adjudication Officer.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that the three appeals raise an identical question of construction *of paragraphs 12 and 13 of Schedule* 2 to the 1987 Regulations.

The question, only capable of arising up to April 8, 1990, was whether the words "in receipt of attendance allowance" in those paragraphs were to be read just as they stood or as importing the additional requirement that the allowance should be payable in respect of the recipient's own needs.

Each claimant had living with him or her a severely disabled child. In each case there was included in the award of income support a disabled child premium payable under paragraph 14 of Schedule 2 but not a disability premium or severe disability premium as well.

There was no doubt that in each case it was the parent, and not the child, who was entitled to the attendance allowance in respect of the child (section 35 of the Social Security Act 1975).

Mr Drabble submitted that since Mrs Rider was paid, but was paid in her own right, the attendance allowance in respect of her child then she was in receipt of the *allowance within paragraph* 13(2)(a)(i) and was thus to be treated, fictionally, as a severely disabled person who satisfied the *condition specified in paragraph* 13(1) in respect of severe disability premium.

Mr McManus submitted that the words "in receipt of" could not be read thus literally and did not include receipt of the allowance payable in respect of the needs of another person and *that* where a parent received it in respect of a child the regulations assumed that it was received by the child and not by the parent.

The terms of paragraph 14 were of crucial importance. Paragraph 13 was concerned *only* with single claimants, lone parents and their partners; paragraph 14 only with children and young persons.

There seemed to be no reason for importing the needs of either class into a paragraph which was concerned with the needs of the other. Since paragraph 14 was *clearly intended to provide for* additional income support to meet the needs of disabled children and young persons, there was no warrant for supposing that those needs were also to be provided for under paragraph 13.

The meaning of "in receipt of" could only be ascertained on an overall comparison of the two paragraphs and a particular consideration of the same words in paragraph 14(b). When that exercise had been carried out it was seen that the words were not to be read just as they stood but as importing the additional requirement that the attendance allowance should be payable in respect of the recipient's own needs.

Lord Justice McCowan and Lord Justice Thorpe agreed.

Solicitors: Mr Glyn Tucker, Newham; Sinclair Taylor Martin; Solicitor, Department of Social Security.

Guidance for jury award

Scotland v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis

If a judge gave guidance to a jury as to the range of an appropriate award in a claim for personal injury in a trial for false imprisonment and/or malicious prosecution, it was essential that the jury was made to understand that it was only guidance.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Evans and Lord Justice Roch) so stated on January 19 when dismissing an appeal brought by Steven Sinclair Scotland against the award by a jury of £500 for personal injury he sustained in an assault by the police.

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH said that it had been submitted that, analogous with the new practice established in defamation cases by the Court of Appeal in *John v MGM Ltd (The Times* December 14, 1995) it might be open to judges to give guidance *to the jury in such cases as the* present as to the tariff figures established by the courts for similar injuries.

In his Lordship's judgment it was desirable that discussions between counsel and the judge as to the appropriate level of award should be made in the absence of the jury. It had to be made clear to the jury that everything depended upon their assessment of the gravity of the injury.

In the present case the figure awarded by the jury, albeit towards the lower end of the scale, fell within the appropriate tariff, and the appeal would be dismissed.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS, agreeing, said that he wished to emphasise that what the judge was giving was guidance.

Corrections

The name of the defendant accountants was misspelt in *DTC (CNC) Ltd v Gary Sergeant & Co (The Times* January 25).

In *Biggs v Somerset County Council (The Times* January 29) Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr Paul Goulding appeared for the council.

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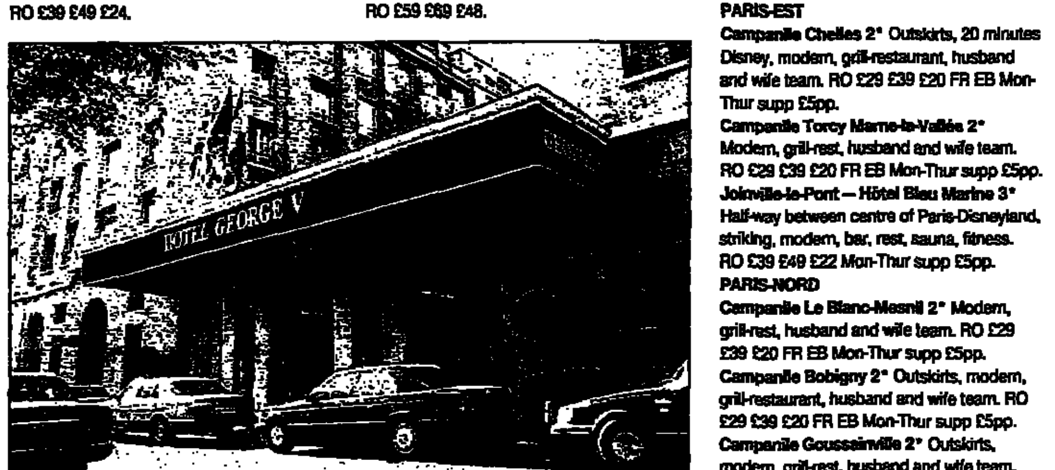


The five-star Hôtel George V where you can stay for £119 a night

Jardin de Paris Montmartre 2* Between Secre-Coeur and St Ouen flea market. Metro Jules Joffrin. RO £29 £39 £15.

Jardin de Paris République 2* Near picturesque St Martin canal, most rooms garden views. Metros Gare de l'Est and J. Bonsergent. RO £29 £39 £15.

Holiday Inn République 3* Sights of Paris are on doorstep, two rest, satellite TV. RO £69 £79 £61.

Amarys Lamarck 2* Near Montmartre, simple, two-star. Metro Jules Joffrin. RO £29 £39 £17.

Climat de France Montmartre 2* Easily accessible by car from the Péripherique. Metro Porte de Clignancourt. RO £29 £39 £17.

Comfort Inn Secré Coeur 2* Modern, comfortable. Metro Abbesses. RO £29 £39 £17.

Comfort Inn St Pierre 2* Near St Pierre market, modern, comfortable, soundproofed. Metro Anvers. RO £29 £39 £17.

Libertel Amiral Duperré 2* Foot of Montmartre, recently renovated. Metro Pigalle. BB £49 £59 £35.

Libertel Moulin 3* Stylish, recently renovated. Metro Blanche. BB £59 £69 £42.

Libertel Monceau 3* Close Arc de Triomphe, tastefully refurbished, welcoming. Metro Ternes. BB £59 £69 £42.

Hôtel du Grand Turenne 3* Heart of picturesque Marais, refurbished. Metro Bastille. BB £59 £69 £42.

Holiday Inn La Villette 3* Close Cité des *Sciences, modern, rest, bar, fitness centre.* Metro Porte de Pantin. RO £59 £69 £40.

Hôtel George V 5* Between the Champs Elyses and the Seine, Parisian landmark, classical elegance. RO £119 £129 £112.

Hôtel de la Trémoille 5* Nestling in quiet street a stroll from Louvre and Arc de Triomphe, 19th century hote, Louis d'Or rest, trad French cuisine. RO £99 £109 £96 Stays must incl Saturday night.

Grand Hotel de France 2* Between Gare de Lyon and Bastille. Metro Gare de Lyon or Bastille. BB £39 £49 £23.

Hôtel Angleterre Etoile 2* Pleasant, modern, between Seine and Arc de Triomphe, small bar. Metro Victor Hugo or Kleber. BB £39 £49 £24.

Hotel Iris 2* Near famous Père Lachaise cemetery, buses to Louvre, Musée d'Orsay and Eiffel Tower, elegant. Metro Père Lachaise. BB £39 £49 £23.

Hotel Merryl 2* Close Gare du Nord, small bar, renovated bedrooms. Metro La Chapelle. BB £39 *£49* £23.

Printania 2* Simple hotel, 15-mins to centre. Metro Porte de Montreuil. BB £39 £49 £23.

Hotel Atlantide République 3* Walking distance Opéra, Louvre, Pompidou Centre, renovated. Metro Rpublique. BB £39 £49 £28.

Beauséjour République 3* Near Place de la République, renovated. Metro République. BB £39 £49 £28.

Hotel Cordelia 3* Heart of Paris, comfortable, opposite café and theatre, small bar, cosy lounge with fireplace. Metro Havre Caumartin. BB £39 £49 £29.

Hotel Florida 3* *Walking distance* Montmartre and Opéra, comfortable, individually decorated rooms, bar. Metro Liège. BB £39 £49 £29.

Modern Hotel Lyon 3* Near Gare de Lyon and Bastille district, traditional, welcoming. Metro Gare de Lyon. BB £39 £49 £28.

Hotel Winston 3* Small, traditional, close to Pigalle, brkfst rm, bar. Metro-Pigalle. BB £39 £49 £29.

Hotel Monceau Elysées 3* Walking distance Arc de Triomphe, Champs Elysées, welcoming. Metro Courcelles. BB £29 £39 £20.

PARIS-EST

Campanile Chelles 2* Outskirts, 20 minutes Disney, modern, grill-restaurant, husband and wife team. RO £29 £39 £20 FR EB Mon-Thur supp £5pp.

Campanile Torcy Marne-la-Vallée 2* Modern, grill-rest, husband and wife team. RO £29 £39 £20 FR EB Mon-Thur supp £5pp.

Joinville-le-Pont — Hôtel Bleu Marine 3* Half-way between centre of Paris-Disneyland, striking, modern, bar, rest, sauna, fitness. RO £39 £49 £22 Mon-Thur supp £5pp.

PARIS-NORD

Campanile Le Blanc-Mesnil 2* Modern, grill-rest, husband and wife team. RO £29 £39 £20 FR EB Mon-Thur supp £5pp.

Campanile Bobigny 2* Outskirts, modern, grill-restaurant, husband and wife team. RO £29 £39 £20 FR EB Mon-Thur supp £5pp.

Campanile Goussainville 2* Outskirts, modern, grill-rest, husband and wife team. RO £29 £39 £20 FR EB Mon-Thur supp £5pp.

Campanile Gonesse 2* Outskirts, modern, grill-rest, husband and wife team. RO £29 £39 £20 FR EB Mon-Thur supp £5pp.

Le Blanc Mesnil Hôtel Bleu Marine 3* Northeast of Paris, 30 mins Disneyland, elegant, comfortable, bar, rest, sauna. RO £39 £49 £22 Mon-Thur supp £5pp.

PERONNE

Campanile 2* Outskirts, motel-style, grill-rest, husband and wife team. RO £29 £39 £20 FR EB Mon-Thur supp £5pp.

RECQUES

Château de Cocove 3* In the countryside, 15-min drive from Calais, 18th century, rest overlooking park, château cellars house a wine shop. RO £39 £49 £25.

Stay at the four-star Méridien Montparnasse for £59 a night

The four-star Sofitel at Versaille where you can stay for only £39 a night

REIMS

Grand Hotel du Nord 2* Opens onto Place d'Erlon with its shops, street cafés and restaurants. RO £29 £39 £20.

Novotel 3* Modern, in its own grounds, easy three-hour drive from Calais by autoroute, rest. Free parking. RO £39 £49 £26 2+2.

L'Assiette Champenoise 4* Beautiful mansion in its own grounds, short drive from centre, rest, indoor pool, sauna. BB £109 £119 £106. 2 nights incl visit to Champagne cellar, tasting; museum pass.

Hôtel Continental 3* On the Place d'Erlon, one of livellest squares in Reims. BB £79 £89 *£74. 2 nights including visit to Champagne* cellar, tasting; museum pass.

Hôtel de la Paix 3* Central, large, modern, bar, rest with lively brasserie atmosphere. BB £79 £89 £74. 2 nights including visit to Champagne cellar, tasting; museum pass.

New Hôtel Europe 3* Heart of Reims, *modern, interior garden. BB £79 £89 £74.* 2 nights including visit to Champagne cellar, tasting; museum pass.

Hôtel des Arcades 2* Heart of Reims, modern, recently renovated. BB £59 £69 £50. 2-nt weekend price including visit to Chamapgne cellar, tasting; museum pass.

Fimotel 2* *Central,* modern, *comfortable,* bar, rest. BB £59 £69 £50. 2- nights including visit Champagne cellar, tasting; museum pass.

Hôtel Crystal 2* Tradiional, on one of liveliest squares in Reims. BB £59 £69 £50. 2 nights including visit to Champagne cellar, tasting; museum pass.

ROLLEBOISE

Château de la Corniche 3* Elegant, high above Seine, tennis court, bar, gastronomic rest beautiful views. RO £29 £39 £20.

ROUEN

Hôtel de Dieppe 3* Heart of old quarter, rest specialising in Normandy cuisine. RO £39 £49 £27.

Interhotel de Bordeaux 2* Close old town, *traditional two-star. RO £29 £39 £15.*

Clarine 2* Close to cathedral, comfortable, rest serving regional specialities, husband and wife team. RO £29 £39 £20 Mon-Thur supplement of £5pp.

SENLIS

Campanile 2* Outskirts, motel-style grill-rest, *husband and wife team. RO £29 £39 £20* FR EB Mon-Thur supplement £5pp.

ST OMER

Le Bretagne 3* Close centre, modern, gastronomic rest and Maeva Grill. RO £39 £49 £23.

ST QUENTIN

Campanile 2* West of St Quentin, motel-*style, grill-rest, husband and wife team. RO* £29 £39 £20 FR EB Mon-Thur supp £5pp.

STRASBOURG

Novotel Centre 3* Central, rest, bar, air-conditioned bedrooms, indoor parking (payable). RO £29 £39 £20 2 + 2.

Novotel Sud 3* Ten kilometres from centre, rest, bar. *RO £29 £39 £20 2 + 2.*

TOURCOING

Fimotel 2* North-east of Lille, rest. RO £29 £39 £20.

VERSAILLES

Sofitel 4* At the gates of magnificent Château de Versailles, the grand siecle architecture blends in with neighbouring monuments, elegant bar, Restaurant les Manages. RO £39 £49 £26.

EB = extra bed available
FR = family room
2 + 2 = bedrooms avail for 2 adults and 2 children under 16
RO = *room only*
BB = bed and breakfast
EBC = extra child's bed available
pp = per person

THE TIMES
EUROPEAN
SHORT
BREAKS
TOKEN 3

PFA members find a little knowledge a dangerous thing in football management

Molby sets pace but most players show feet of clay

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

If only all managers had the brains, wit and insight of the average football supporter, the FA Carling Premiership would be in a class of its own. One look at the success rate of the Interactive Team Football (ITF) selectors can tell you that. Kevin Keegan may be happy to spend £7 million on Asprilla with a further £10 million reserved for Batty and Boksic, but the leading ITF managers know that it is not cash but guile that wins points.

Keegan's Newcastle may be leading the Premiership, but his tactics would never work in the ITF. Including those players he is currently trying to sign, his spending since last summer stands at around £33 million, and all that for only eight players. With only £35 million available to the ITF managers, Keegan would be broke and still only have half a team.

Of course, a little inside knowledge always helps. You would think that the Premiership players who have entered the PFA league would have their fingers on the pulse of football, aware of the gossip and rumour; a keen professional eye sizing up the playing talent around them. Dream on.

Pity poor Alan Stubbs, of Bolton. His side, the Kirkby Krunchers, have amassed a meagre 155 points thanks to injuries and his boys simply not being picked to play for their clubs. But at least he has some points to his name. The selections of Steve Potts, David Lee and Mark Hughes have scored, between them, not one solitary point. Best not to give up the day jobs, boys.

At the top, Jan Molby is still in the lead, but only just. With 306 points, he is one point ahead of Darren Peacock and Mark Powell who, for the last four weeks, have been jockeying for position in the race to catch the great Dane.

Peacock and Powell have both gone for the big money strikers with mixed results. Peacock decided on Alan Shearer, but then ran out of money and chances to win points by teaming him up with Paateleinen, of Bolton. Powell is still waiting for Andy Cole to start earning his corn by scoring £7 million worth of goals.

All three, however, have based their teams on the defensive qualities of Aston Villa and Everton. Molby has paired Watson and Ehiogu at the heart of his defence with Southall in goal, while the other two managers have opted for Bosnich, of Aston Villa, between the sticks.

If your team could be doing better, with your players lacking form and fitness, you can move into the transfer market to improve your fortunes. ITF has a transfer system that allows you to change up to two players each week. Which player you want to offload and who you replace him with is up to you, although you must replace the outgoing player with one from the same category (ie, a full back with a full back) and keep within your £35 million budget.

The ITF transfer system also allows you to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership. You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 333 331 line during the times given. Calls will be charged at 39 pence per minute cheap rate, 49 pence per minute at other times. If you are calling from the Republic of Ireland, you must call 004 499 020 0631 and you will be charged at 58 pence per minute at all times.

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team value still falls within your £35 million budget and does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the £50,000 prize or the monthly £500 prizes.

With ITF, not only are you pitting your selectorial skills against other readers of The Times, you are also matching your wits against those in the know. With the support of the Professional Footballers' Association, Premiership players have entered sides of their own, and Mark Powell, of Bolton Wanderers, gives his selection on the opposite page. Like him, you may spend £7 million on Andy Cole — but will he do better than cheaper alternatives?

All matches in the Premiership and those in the FA Cup involving Premiership clubs count and your players and manager win and lose you points. With Gohils Gods 65 setting the pace, is it time for you to delve into the transfer market?

☐ ***All transfer queries regarding Interactive Team Football should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.***

THE WEEK'S TRANSFERS IN ITF

IN

Code	Player	Club	Value
10203	A Coton	Man Utd	£2.5m
40702	A Sinton	Tottenham	£2.0m
41708	N Clough	Man City	£1.5m

OUT

Code	Player	Club	Value
11701	A Coton	Man City	£2.5m
41302	A Sinton	Sheff Wed	£2.0m
40407	N Clough	Liverpool	£1.5m

Giggs's goal for Manchester United in the FA Cup on Saturday helped him to close the gap on the leading midfield players, Lee and Merson

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All FA Carling Premiership and FA Cup matches in the 1995-6 season *count for points. Every goal and penalty counts*

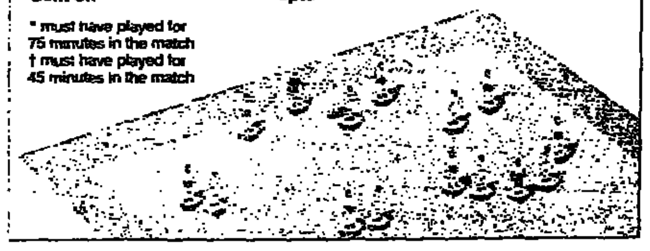
POINTS SCORED

Goalkeeper		**Striker**	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scores goal	2pts
Scores goal	3pts	**All players**	
Full back/Central defender		Appearance†	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	**Manager**	
Scores goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player		Team draws	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scores goal	2pts		

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper		Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scores own goal	1pt
All players		**Manager**	
Sent off	3pts	Team loses	1pt

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match



HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 333 331

'Calls cost (per minute) 39p cheap rate, 49p other times. Rep. 58p'

If calling from the Republic of Ireland, call 004 499 020 0631

You can make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selector's PIN, which must be tapped in and not spoken. Follow the simple instructions and use the players' five-digit codes.

The line is open from 6am on Tuesday until 11am on Saturday; from 6pm on Saturday to 11am on Sunday and from 6pm on Sunday until 3pm on Monday. If there are midweek matches, the lines will also close at 3pm on the day of the match (or matches) and re-open the following day at 6am.

You may make up to (but no more than) two transfers a week. Each transfer is a separate transaction and you must sell a player before you can buy one.

A player transferred out of your team must be replaced by a player from the same category - for example a full back for a full back.

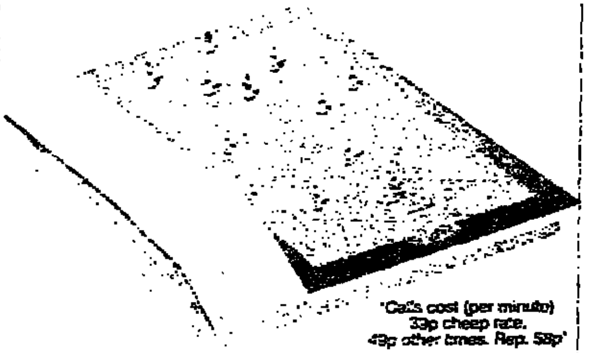
When purchasing a player you must ensure that the team value still falls within your £35 million budget (even if your next transfer would rectify any overspending) and does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The score of the player transferred out is taken at the time of transfer; he then ceases to score for you.

	Player code
Player out	☐☐☐☐☐
Club	
Player in	☐☐☐☐☐
Club	

THE LEADING 250 SELECTORS IN INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



'Calls cost (per minute) 33p cheap rate, 49p other times. Rep. 58p'

Call the ITF checkline on
0891 774 796

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. The line is open from noon today

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	Gohils Gods 65	(Mr B Gohil)	448
2	Kevins Kickers	(K James)	433
3	Jones Boys Six	(M L Jones)	413
4	Steves Lions 2	(S Brewer)	404
4	Teddy Five	(Mr B Bear)	404
6	Aberspurs	(G Shand)	398
7	Snort And Stubbs	(K Booth)	395
8	Shrew Voles	(H Brasher)	392
9	Kisspurs Five	(E Kisby)	390
10	Phsyco And Smither	(K Booth)	389
11	Steves Lions 7	(S Brewer)	386
11	———	(J Nicholl)	386
13	Sharon's Buds	(Mr D Conroy)	385
14	My Cat Bailey	(Mr P Johnson)	384
14	Apollo 2	(S Lazarids)	384
16	Jessicas Darlings 4	(Mr A Nadison)	383
16	Fergies Fury	(P Simpson)	383
18	Rosies Supers	(P Sutton)	380
18	Steves Lions 6	(S Brewer)	380
18	Fair Fair Flapster	(C Woodward)	380
18	Dwayns Dribblers	(A J Philcox)	380
22	Percys Progress	(M Persich)	379
22	Steves Lions 1	(S Brewer)	379
24	Rescue City	(J Sanderson)	378
24	The Good Bad & Ugly	(K Booth)	378
24	Partick Thistle	(C Nicol)	378
27	Bunwell United	(R Banham)	377
28	Steves Lions 8	(S Brewer)	376
28	Saltzburg United	(Mr P J Davies)	376
28	Who Needs Mark	(N Persich)	376
31	Strangers	(Mr G Banks)	375
31	KP Fantasy Team 4	(Kr Patel)	375
31	Razor's Raiders	(R A Knowles)	375
34	Nigels Right Foot	(Mr D Patel)	374
35	Laytons Lions	(Mr R Layton)	373
35	Tommy Cockles XI	(Mr P Johnson)	373
35	Nirvana FC	(Mr J Donovan)	373
38	The Young Guns	(B Shepherd)	372
38	Jacobookie FC	(Mr A P Jacobucci)	372
40	Steves Lions 5	(S Brewer)	371
40	Jones Boys Four	(L M Jones)	371
42	No Fear Utd	(G Saunders)	369
42	Al's Alsorans	(A Hancock)	369
44	Good Times United	(Mr T Stableford)	368
44	Commuting Eleven	(B Evans)	368
46	Chip N' Dale XI	(Mrs E L Arrowsmith)	367
47	Goal Diggers	(C Stacey)	365
47	Harrington Inter	(Mr D Lovell)	365
47	Estuary	(Mr P Giles)	365
47	Cameron Athan	(Mr J R Reader)	365
47	Carling XI	(P Parke)	365
47	Rassell 3	(D Shuter)	365
47	Bal's Team	(B Ghuman)	365
54	Le Socks	(I Aldous)	364
54	Nadar	(Mr A Neviazsky)	364
54	Langton Longshots	(J Ward)	364
57	Jesmond 1860	(S Murray)	363
58	Warren Wizards	(J Buckle)	362
58	Nobby One	(A Brown)	362
58	County Pine A	(J Hurst)	362
58	No Sam Today	(N Webb)	362
58	Wannabee Stars	(A P Harris)	362
63	The Wee One Too	(A Nelson)	361
63	Turners Earners	(P Turner)	361
63	Kims Kickers	(G Sutton)	361
63	Scol Utd	(B Scolick)	361
63	Borussia Dundonald	(Kevin Smith)	361
63	Steve's Scorers	(S Tinkler)	361
63	The Likely Lads	(G Pedder)	361
63	Mercer's Men	(D Bowlers)	361
63	Wotnoshearer	(K Booth)	361
63	Partick Thistle	(C Nicol)	361
63	Norman	(T Sigsworth)	361
74	Mean Machine	(Ramesh Patel)	360
74	The Doug Hutches	(M Stacey)	360
74	Rempstone Rovers	(N A Woodroffe)	360
74	Oi Armstrong Yes	(C Hyde)	360
74	Boing Boing Baggy	(T Horne)	360
79	C	(M Corless)	359
79	Guiford Marching	(Mr J M Harris)	359
79	Monster Monster	(M Parish)	359
79	Phychic TV	(T Vardy)	359
79	Justintime	(A Kent)	359
84	Melds Skill Monsters	(M Meldrum)	358
84	Tonys All Stars	(A Boyland)	358
84	Firefly City	(I Hanson)	358
84	Rescue City 2	(J Sanderson)	358
84	Albemarle Town	(I Hedges)	358
84	The Entertainers	(L Rappa)	358
90	Map 9	(M Priestley)	357
90	Evans Men	(M Doyle)	357
90	Pig In A Poke	(Mr J Waters)	357
90	Turners Earners 2	(P Turner)	357
94	Twighlight United	(P C Dilworth)	356
94	———	(P Hanna)	356
94	The Mind Boogies	(Mr P McDowall)	356
94	They're Here	(Mr P Johnson)	356
94	Journeymen	(A Jordan)	356
94	Sams All Stars	(J Allen)	356
100	Nobby Nat	(A Brown)	355
100	The Phantoms	(Z Mohammed)	355
100	Tunde United	(Dr T Adetunji)	355
100	Bohinen Forest	(S Bunn)	355
100	Foxton Rangers	(J Lees)	355
100	Royle's Rangers	(P M Evans)	355
100	Poundswick Pupils	(J Platter)	355
100	Fraser Dribblers	(G Shanahan)	355
100	Merson The Person	(S Blane)	355
100	Clares Ducks	(T Cullen)	355
110	Mighty Reds	(I Lewis)	354
110	Batley Reserves	(Mr M Wasik)	354
110	Nokia Rangers	(Mr A G W Whyte)	354
110	———	(N Thompson)	354
110	Jaggy Thistle	(J Bruce)	354
110	The Conjurers	(Mr D J Farmer)	354
110	Brillo Boys	(C Timson)	354
110	Pele's Star Turn	(Mr P Macey)	354
110	Don Shuter C	(D Shuter)	354
110	Good-Time Boys	(R P Crook)	354
110		(———)	354
110	Racing Club Hanwel	(G Williams)	354
122	Nippers	(K Hughes)	353
122	Abenbury Ville	(J S Dhesi)	353
122	Guilty OJ	(I Aldous)	353
122	Lemonias	(Mr P Gregoriou)	353
122	Pursell Rangers	(F Macdonald Pursell)	353
122	Score A Bundle	(S A Billingham)	353
122	The Locksters	(D Lock)	353
122	Pilkys Pirates	(R B Pilkington)	353
122	———	(Mrs S Carter)	353
131	Avenue Dunelmian Utd	(K D Balfour)	352
131	Gatto Nero FC	(E Scaletta)	352
131	The Mighty Dunston	(Dr Hall)	352
131	Transporter	(A Jenkinson)	352
131	Ramsden Raiders 2	(Mr A Shah)	352
131	Bert Trautmann XI	(M Podeur)	352
131	Donnay's Dream	(H Matthews)	352
131	Martinets 5	(T Martin)	352
139	Quinton Forest	(J Baker)	351
139	Nookies Bears	(S Cozens)	351
139	The Cake Eaters	(Mr S Hughes)	351
139	Boogie Meisters	(B Robinson)	351
139	Street FC	(S Bartlett)	351
139	Abergavenny Rovers	(S Smith)	351
139	The Magicians	(A Creegan)	351
139	Chumpdoria	(T Hibbs)	351
139	Eggs N'Ham	(Mr D Warner)	351
139	Soldom United	(Mr T Armitage)	351
139	Burnzy's Babes	(T Burns)	351
139	Barrys Army	(J P Barry)	351
139	———	(P Hutchinson)	351
139	Francis Caldwell FC	(F Caldwell)	351
153	Nats Lions	(N Brewer)	350
153	God Squad	(C Hubbard)	350
153	Splat Utd	(P Mason)	350
153	Kaisers Champions	(Mr K Chisholm)	350
153	Tilehurst Tornados	(D Chamberlain)	350
153	JK's Dolphins	(J F Kitchen)	350
153	Formby Flyers	(A Norton)	350
153	S Express FC	(S O'Toole)	350
153	Loxton's Longshots	(C Loxton)	350
153	Marts Mavericks	(M Slade)	350
153	Colo Knights	(I C Cole)	350
153	PKF Pundit	(P Francis)	350
153	Real Madras FC 2nd	(P Bradley)	350
153	The Minds Fiblad	(R J Danavell)	350
153	110 Percent	(M C Doherty)	350
153	Kisspurs Two	(EJ Kisby)	350
169	Only Can Saver	(M McKeown)	349
169	Jap 11	(J Parton)	349
169	———	(Mick Firth)	349
169	Up Periscope I	(S Burgess)	349
169	Glasso's Goers	(J I Glassbrook)	349
169	Legion Of Doom	(D Madden)	349
169	The Lodge	(S Pang)	349
169	Vesuvio	(G Batchelor)	349
169	———	(S Clist)	349
178	Long Drive	(I Parker)	348
178	Grove Rovers	(T Townsend)	348
178	KBT Utd	(R Patterson)	348
178	Anti-Saints	(J Lowson)	348
178	Robbo's Army	(P Callaghan)	348
178	Tyes Blue Noses	(Mr S Tye)	348
178	The Solboys	(D Hoskins)	348
178	Dream Team	(J Veltman)	348
178	Freedom XI	(P Mennie)	348
178	The Otters	(O Millar)	348
178	Inter Adagio	(S Slade)	348
178	———	(M Dale)	348
178	Armitage Shanks FC	(C Walker)	348
178	Crook Invaders	(N Carr)	348
178	Switcheroo	(A Richardson)	348
178	Mumfordian Utd	(J Mumford)	348
178	Its A Mugs Game	(K Booth)	348
178	Bad Losers FC	(P Bayley)	348
178	The Rampant Rams	(N R Afzal)	348
178	The Sackers	(G Langley)	348
178	Very Forward	(A Pearse)	348
178	Check Your Head Unit	(M Adamson)	348
200	Reza Rovers	(Mr Pagliari)	347
200	Partisans	(E Donald)	347
200	Jaynes Jugs	(K Hughes)	347
200	OHME	(R Matthewson)	347
200	Power Rangers FC	(G Williams)	347
200	Wylde Green Town	(M Riggins)	347
200	Reggie's Reds	(Mr J Bridge)	347
200	Always Hope	(Mr R Foster)	347
200	Adams Man Or God 4	(R Pike)	347
200	The Glory Boys	(N Venn)	347
200	Premier Suprem	(P Green)	347
200	Megs Eleven	(T Becker)	347
200	Sky Blue Royles	(R G Foster)	347
213	Paron United	(Mr A Hewitt)	346
213	Hams Hotspurs	(H Khan)	346
213	Premier Allstars	(D Middleton)	346
213	Tapcream	(R Hetherington)	346
213	Woodstock XI	(KR Grogan)	346
213	Seacalgeo FC 4	(S Adams)	346
213	St Remy Strikers	(G Dabnor)	346
213	Badsam F	(D Mulholland)	346
213	Alis Tartan Army	(A A Gordon)	346
213	Moneybags United	(P Ettridge)	346
213	———	(L Tarvis)	346
213	Egerton Park	(D Rhoades)	346
213	Black Swan Utd	(R Gummery)	346
226	Jungle Nation	(D J Pagel)	345
226	Ruefull Rabbits	(J Whateley)	345
226	Mac United	(T McCluskey)	345
226	The Studers	(S French)	345
226	Guy Rovers	(S G Ankcorn)	345
226	It's A Trap	(Mr Allen)	345
226	Atlantis FC	(E Halford)	345
226	Keegans Crusaders	(S Armitage)	345
226	Winters Wanderers	(Mr A F Winter)	345
226	FA Allstars United	(S Dosani)	345
226	Jessy's Giants	(A Jess)	345
226	Teds Tigers	(E Townsend)	345
226	———	(S Armitage)	345
226	The Dream Team	(C Farrell)	345
226	Kisspurs Four	(E J Kisby)	345
226	Gohils Gods 73	(Mr B Gohil)	345
226	Headtwitchers	(D Ferguson)	345
243	James Dinglers	(J Andrew)	344
243	Paterson S Dreamers	(M Paterson)	344
243	Well Safe	(A Costello)	344
243	Onceinabluemoon	(Mr D Clarke)	344
243	The Gentlemen	(D Grassick)	344
243	No Hopers	(S Harris)	344
243	The UK Beavers	(J Elkins)	344
243	The Misfits	(Mr A Beal)	344

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The players' overall and weekly scores and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Shipperley, of Southampton, left, and Cole, of Manchester United, form Powell's striking partnership

Nosh hungry for goals

Mark Powell, of Bolton Wanderers, discusses his successful ITF side

NOSH FC, my Interactive Team Football (ITF) side, is joint-second in the players' league and I am very pleased. The team name comes from my nickname at Bolton Wanderers. For some reason, the commentator who does the videos of the reserve games decided to call me "Nosher".

I wanted to pick an all-round attacking side. McAllister scores loads of goals; Unsworth takes the penalties for Everton and Ginola is always likely to score a few. When it came to the goalkeeper, I know Mark Bosnich personally, so he was first choice there.

I also wanted to have a strong defence, which is why I had Ehiogu, from Aston Villa. They do not concede too many goals and Ehiogu is a good defender who also chips in with a few goals himself.

Villa are a surprising side. A couple of years ago, when Manchester United at last won the league again, it was a race between them and Villa. I thought that, from then on, Villa would always be challenging for the title, but they went through a bad spell. However, Brian Little has brought in some new players *and they seem to be heading back.*

Rob Jones is another player I have known for a long time; we were at the same school together in Ellesmere Port. I have already had a word with him about scoring a few goals for my team and he said he will see what he can do. He has not scored at all yet for Liverpool, but he was saying that he is enjoying the role he has at Anfield. He likes getting into attacking positions and going forward. He hit the post the other day so I think he is coming close to getting that first goal.

As I am a keen follower of Manchester United, it is no real surprise that I have two of their players in Nosh FC. Andy Cole is my most expensive player at £7 million, and I thought that, when he moved from Newcastle United, he would carry on scoring goals the way he had been doing; but it has taken him time to settle in.

I think Manchester United are more patient in their build-up than Newcastle. There, they used to play the ball in over the top for Cole to run on to; but he is now expected to do more things — to lay the ball off, to play to the wide men, and it has taken time for him to adapt. He is beginning to pick up, though, so I think he will do well for me as the season goes on.

Roy Keane is the other United man. I thought, when he first went there, that he was just a battler. He would get the ball and give it to Ince to create something; But now that Ince has gone he is growing into a more creative player. He gets his tackles in still but, when he has got the ball, he looks to make something of it. The way that he has developed has surprised me, but it is good news for me.

David Ginola is the player whom I really admire. I have got about 100 football videos at home and I thought, from them, that I had seen every move in the game. Then I saw Ginola play. He *does not score as many as maybe he* should — you might think that he just likes to bang in crosses all day — but, when you see him at work, you realise that he has such pace and so many tricks. I have never seen anything like it.

POWELL'S TEAM

Goalkeeper:	M Bosnich	(Aston Villa)	£2.5m
Full backs:	R Jones	(Liverpool)	£3m
	D Bardsley	(QPR)	£2m
Centre backs:	D Unsworth	(Everton)	£2.5m
	U Ehiogu	(Aston Villa)	£2.5m
Midfielders:	D Ginola	(Newcastle)	£4.5m
	R Keane	(Man Utd)	£2.5m
	D Batty	(Blackburn)	£1.5m
	G McAllister	(Leeds)	£4m
Strikers:	A Cole	(Man Utd)	£7m
	N Shipperley	(Southampton)	£2.5m
Manager:	C Todd	(Bolton)	£0.5m

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Ov
10101	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	0	+3
10102	B Mimms	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	-1
10201	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	+9	+11
10301	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	-13
10302	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	0
10303	A Fettis	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0	0
10401	D James	Liverpool	3.50	0	+21
10402	A Warner	Liverpool	0.25	0	0
10501	J Lukic	Leeds United	3.00	0	-11
10502	M Beeney	Leeds United	0.75	0	-1
10601	P Smicek	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+5
10602	M Hooper	Newcastle United	1.00	0	0
10603	S Hislop	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+4
10701	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-1	0
10702	E Thorstvedt	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0	0
10801	A Roberts	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	-7
10802	S Dykstra	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	0	0
10803	J Sommer	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	0	-25
10901	H Segers	Wimbledon	1.50	0	-7
10902	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+2
10903	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.50	0	-38
11001	B Grobbelaar	Southampton	1.50	0	0
11002	D Beasant	Southampton	0.75	0	-10
11101	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0	+8
11102	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	1.00	0	+1
11201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	0	+14
11202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
11301	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	-32
11302	C Woods	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	-6
11401	L Miklosko	West Ham United	2.50	-1	-14
11402	L Sealey	West Ham United	0.50	0	0
11501	N Southall	Everton	2.50	-3	-1
11502	J Kearton	Everton	0.75	0	0
11601	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	0	-21
11602	J Gould	Coventry City	0.75	0	0
11603	J Filan	Coventry City	1.50	0	-35
11701	A Coton	Manchester City	2.50	0	0
11702	A Dibble	Manchester City	2.50	0	0
11703	E Immel	Manchester City	2.00	0	-9
11801	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	2.50	+5	+33
11802	N Spink	Aston Villa	1.00	0	-1
11901	A Miller	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	+3
11902	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-5
12001	K Branagan	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	-57
12002	A Davison	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	0

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Ov
20101	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+22
20102	G Le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	4.50	0	+3
20103	J Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+32
20201	D Irwin	Manchester United	4.50	+8	+21
20202	P Parker	Manchester United	2.50	+2	+1
20203	G Neville	Manchester United	2.50	+7	+7
20204	P Neville	Manchester United	0.75	+5	+13
20301	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.50	0	+26
20302	D Lyttle	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+16
20303	A Haaland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	-12
20401	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0	+27
20402	S Bjornebye	Liverpool	3.00	0	+4
20403	S Harkness	Liverpool	0.75	0	+26
20501	T Dorigo	Leeds United	3.50	0	+11
20502	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	0	+11
20503	N Worthington	Leeds United	1.50	0	-2
20601	J Beresford	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+13
20602	M Hottiger	Newcastle United	3.00	0	0
20603	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+24
20701	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+9
20702	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+3
20703	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+25
20704	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0	0
20705	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+3	+9
20801	D Bardsley	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	0	-7
20802	R Brevett	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	-3
20803	N Zelic	Queens Park Rangers	2.50	0	-3
20901	A Kimble	Wimbledon	2.50	0	-1
20902	G Elkins	Wimbledon	1.50	0	-8
20903	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	1.50	0	-11
20904	R Joseph	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
21001	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	0	+15
21002	F Benali	Southampton	1.00	0	+4
21003	S Charlton	Southampton	1.00	0	+10
21101	S Clarke	Chelsea	1.50	0	+8
21102	S Minto	Chelsea	1.50	0	+3
21104	A Myers	Chelsea	0.50	0	+15
21105	T Phelan	Chelsea	1.50	0	+3
21106	D Petrescu	Chelsea	2.50	0	+17
21201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	0	+30
21202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	0	+27
21203	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.50	0	0
21302	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	-4
21303	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	-8
21304	D Stefanovic	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	-1
21401	J Dicks	West Ham United	3.50	0	+2
21402	T Breacker	West Ham United	3.00	0	-12
21403	K Brown	West Ham United	0.75	0	0
21404	K Rowland	West Ham United	0.75	+1	+9
21501	G Ablett	Everton	2.50	0	+10
21502	E Barrett	Everton	2.50	0	+4
21503	M Jackson	Everton	1.50	0	+10
21504	P Holmes	Everton	0.50	0	-2
21601	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	0	0
21602	A Pickering	Coventry City	1.00	0	-3
21603	S Morgan	Coventry City	0.75	0	0
21604	M Hall	Coventry City	0.75	0	-19
21702	R Edghill	Manchester City	1.50	0	-1
21704	J Foster	Manchester City	0.75	0	-1
21801	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	+4	+38
21802	S Staunton	Aston Villa	4.50	0	+3
21803	A Wright	Aston Villa	2.50	+4	+40
21804	P King	Aston Villa	0.50	0	0
21805	B Small	Aston Villa	0.50	0	0
21901	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-3
21902	N Cox	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+21
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	+23
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	-6
22001	G Bergsson	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	-10
22002	S Green	Bolton Wanderers	0.25	0	-9
22003	J Philips	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	-14
22004	A Todd	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	-6
22005	S McAnespie	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	+1

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Ov
30101	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.50	0	+27
30102	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+3
30103	N Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	+3
30104	A Reed	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	0
30105	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+19
30201	S Bruce	Manchester United	4.50	+7	+20
30202	G Pallister	Manchester United	4.50	0	+16
30203	D May	Manchester United	1.50	0	-1
30301	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.50	0	+24
30302	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+10
30401	P Babb	Liverpool	3.00	0	+20
30402	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.50	0	+29
30403	J Scales	Liverpool	3.50	0	+10
30404	M Wright	Liverpool	1.00	0	+21
30405	D Matteo	Liverpool	0.75	0	+4
30501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	3.50	0	+11
30502	C Palmer	Leeds United	3.00	0	+9
30503	J Pemberton	Leeds United	1.50	0	-1
30505	P Beesley	Leeds United	1.00	0	+1
30506	R Jobson	Leeds United	1.50	0	+4
30601	P Albert	Newcastle United	4.00	0	+14
30602	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+24
30603	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+23
30701	G Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+20
30702	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+12
30703	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	0	-1
30704	K Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	0	0
30705	J Cundy	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
30801	D Maddix	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	-8
30802	S Yates	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	-6
30803	A McDonald	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	0	+4
30805	K Ready	Queens Park Rangers	0.75	0	-6
30901	A Reeves	Wimbledon	2.50	0	0
30902	A Thorn	Wimbledon	0.75	0	-4
30903	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.75	0	-8
30904	C Perry	Wimbledon	1.00	0	-14
30905	A Pearce	Wimbledon	2.50	0	-2
31001	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	0	+8
31002	A Neilson	Southampton	1.50	0	+10
31003	R Hall	Southampton	1.50	0	+7
31101	E Johnsen	Chelsea	1.50	0	+14
31102	J Kjeldbjerg	Chelsea	1.50	0	0
31103	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
31104	D Lee	Chelsea	0.75	0	+16
31105	M Duberry	Chelsea	2.50	0	+1
31201	T Adams	Arsenal	4.50	0	+27
31202	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00	0	+23
31203	M Keown	Arsenal	1.50	0	+17
31204	A Linighan	Arsenal	1.50	0	-6
31301	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	0
31401	S Potts	West Ham United	2.50	0	+7
31402	M Rieper	West Ham United	2.50	0	+5
31403	A Martin	West Ham United	1.00	0	+21
31405	A Whitbread	West Ham United	0.50	0	0
31501	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	0	+24
31502	D Watson	Everton	2.50	-1	+10
31503	C Short	Everton	2.50	-2	+13
31602	D Rennie	Coventry City	0.75	0	-7
31603	D Busst	Coventry City	0.75	0	0
31604	B Borrows	Coventry City	1.50	0	-9
31605	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	0	-15
31701	K Curle	Manchester City	1.50	0	+9
31702	A Kernaghan	Manchester City	1.00	0	-1
31704	K Symons	Manchester City	1.50	0	+11
31801	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	2.50	+4	+36
31802	P McGrath	Aston Villa	1.50	+4	+22
31804	C Tiler	Aston Villa	0.75	0	+1
31901	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	+13
31902	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	+22
31903	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-8
31904	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	+14
32001	A Stubbs	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	0	+3
32002	C Fairclough	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	0	-16
32003	S Coleman	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	0
32004	G Taggart	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	0	-9
32005	G Strong	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	0

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Ov
40102	D Batty	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+29
40103	J Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	0	0
40104	T Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+28
40105	S Ripley	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	+31
40107	P Warhurst	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+1
40109	M Holmes	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	+7
40110	L Bohinen	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	0	+37
40111	W McKinley	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+6
40112	G Fenton	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	+1
40201	R Giggs	Manchester United	5.50	+6	+42
40202	R Keane	Manchester United	2.50	+4	+23
40203	L Sharpe	Manchester United	3.00	+3	+21
40205	N Butt	Manchester United	2.00	0	+26
40206	D Beckham	Manchester United	0.75	0	+28
40207	S Davies	Manchester United	0.75	0	+1
40302	C Bart-Williams	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+24
40303	I Woan	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+34
40304	S Stone	Nottingham Forest	4.00	0	+38
40305	D Phillips	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	+9
40306	S Gemmill	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	+21
40307	K Black	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	0
40401	S McManaman	Liverpool	6.50	0	+42
40402	J Redknapp	Liverpool	2.50	0	+21
40403	J Barnes	Liverpool	3.00	0	+35
40404	P Stewart	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
40405	M Thomas	Liverpool	1.50	0	+9
40407	N Clough	Liverpool	1.50	0	+2
40409	M Kennedy	Liverpool	2.00	0	+1
40410	J Molby	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
40411	J McAteer	Liverpool	4.00	0	+23
40501	G McAllister	Leeds United	4.00	0	+40
40502	G Speed	Leeds United	4.00	0	+32
40503	R Wallace	Leeds United	2.50	0	+12
40505	L Radebe	Leeds United	0.75	0	0
40506	M Tinkler	Leeds United	0.50	0	+3
40507	A Couzens	Leeds United	1.00	0	+1
40508	M Ford	Leeds United	1.00	0	+3
40601	R Lee	Newcastle United	4.50	0	+44
40603	D Ginola	Newcastle United	4.50	0	+35
40604	K Gillespie	Newcastle United	4.00	0	+28
40605	L Clark	Newcastle United	1.50	0	+28
40607	S Watson	Newcastle United	1.50	0	+13
40608	C Holland	Newcastle United	0.75	0	0
40609	R Elliott	Newcastle United	0.75	0	+1
40701	D Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	6.50	0	+3
40702	D Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+23
40703	J Dozzell	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	0	+16
40704	D Caskey	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	+1	+6
40705	G McMahon	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	+7
40706	I Dumitrescu	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	0	+5
40707	R Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	6.00	+1	+29
40801	S Barker	Queens Park Rangers	2.50	0	+20
40802	I Holloway	Queens Park Rangers	2.50	0	+14
40803	A Impey	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	+29
40805	T Sinclair	Queens Park Rangers	3.00	0	+30
40808	G Goodridge	Queens Park Rangers	0.75	0	0
40809	N Quashie	Queens Park Rangers	0.75	0	0
40901	V Jones	Wimbledon	2.00	0	+9
40902	R Earle	Wimbledon	2.50	0	+37
40903	M Gayle	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+18
40904	O Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2.50	0	+32
40905	N Ardley	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
40906	P Fear	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+3
41001	J Magilton	Southampton	3.00	0	+36
41002	N Maddison	Southampton	2.00	0	+16
41003	N Heaney	Southampton	2.50	0	+14
41005	D Hughes	Southampton	0.75	0	+6
41006	T Widdrington	Southampton	1.00	0	+16
41007	B Venison	Southampton	1.50	0	+13
41008	M Walters	Southampton	1.50	0	0
41101	D Wise	Chelsea	5.00	0	+36
41102	R Gullitt	Chelsea	4.00	0	+28
41103	G Peacock	Chelsea	3.00	0	+17
41104	D Rocastle	Chelsea	1.50	0	+1
41105	N Spackman	Chelsea	0.75	0	+7
41106	C Burley	Chelsea	1.00	0	+13
41108	E Newton	Chelsea	0.75	0	+28
41201	G Helder	Arsenal	4.00	0	+22
41202	P Merson	Arsenal	4.00	0	+44
41204	R Parlour	Arsenal	2.00	0	+13
41205	E McGoldrick	Arsenal	1.00	0	0
41206	D Hillier	Arsenal	1.00	0	+2
41207	J Jensen	Arsenal	1.00	0	+13
41208	D Platt	Arsenal	4.50	0	+29
41209	A Clarke	Arsenal	1.50	0	+1
41301	J Sheridan	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+7
41302	A Sinton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+8
41303	C Waddle	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+26
41304	G Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+10
41305	K Ingesson	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+5
41306	R Jones	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	0	0
41307	M Williams	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+2
41308	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	0	+9
41309	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+18
41401	J Moncur	West Ham United	3.00	+1	+18
41404	M Allen	West Ham United	2.00	0	+4
41405	I Bishop	West Ham United	1.50	+1	+29
41406	D Gordon	West Ham United	1.00	0	0
41409	R Slater	West Ham United	1.00	0	+16
41410	S Lazarides	West Ham United	1.00	0	+2
41411	M Hughes	West Ham United	2.00	0	+21
41412	D Williamson	West Ham United	1.00	+1	+10
41501	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	5.00	0	+13
41502	J Ebbrell	Everton	1.50	+1	+25
41503	A Limpar	Everton	2.50	0	+24
41504	B Horne	Everton	1.50	+1	+16
41505	V Samways	Everton	1.50	0	+5
41506	J Parkinson	Everton	1.00	+1	+28
41508	A Grant	Everton	0.50	0	+2
41509	A Kanchelskis	Everton	6.00	+1	+40
41601	P Cook	Coventry City	2.00	0	+2
41602	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	0	+17
41603	G Strachan	Coventry City	1.50	0	+2
41607	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	0	+27
41608	M Isaias	Coventry City	3.00	0	+9
41609	C Batista	Coventry City	1.00	0	0
41610	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50	0	+31
41701	G Flitcroft	Manchester City	2.50	0	+16
41702	P Beagrie	Manchester City	3.00	0	+3
41703	S Lomas	Manchester City	1.50	0	+27
41704	I Brightwell	Manchester City	1.50	0	+15
41706	N Summerbee	Manchester City	1.50	0	+29
41707	G Kinkladze	Manchester City	1.50	0	+34
41801	A Townsend	Aston Villa	2.00	+2	+22
41802	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.00	0	+27
41803	G Southgate	Aston Villa	2.00	+2	+32
41805	F Carr	Aston Villa	0.50	0	0
41806	M Draper	Aston Villa	2.50	+2	+38
41901	C Hignett	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+25
41902	A Moore	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	0
41903	J Moreno	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+2
41904	R Mustoe	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	+14
41905	J Pollock	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	+24
41906	B Robson	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	+2
41907	Juninho	Middlesbrough	5.00	0	+16
42002	D Lee	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	0	+7
42003	A Thompson	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	0	+13
42004	R Sneekes	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	0	+13
42007	W Burnett	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	0
42008	S Sellars	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	0	+15
42009	S Curcic	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	0	+13

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Ov
50101	A Shearer	Blackburn Rovers	10.00	0	+68
50102	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	7.00	0	+7
50103	M Newell	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	+21
50104	K Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+7
50105	N Goodm'dsson	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	0
50201	E Cantona	Manchester United	7.50	+6	+32
50202	A Cole	Manchester United	7.00	+1	+37
50203	B McClair	Manchester United	3.00	0	+16
50204	P Scholes	Manchester United	2.50	0	+30
50301	B Roy	Nottingham Forest	6.00	0	+24
50302	K Campbell	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	+18
50303	J Lee	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0	+25
50305	A Silenzi	Nottingham Forest	3.50	0	+1
50401	R Fowler	Liverpool	8.00	0	+63
50402	S Collymore	Liverpool	7.50	0	+34
50403	I Rush	Liverpool	3.00	0	+19
50501	A Yeboah	Leeds United	7.50	0	+43
50502	B Deane	Leeds United	2.50	0	+22
50503	P Masinga	Leeds United	1.50	0	+2
50506	T Brolin	Leeds United	5.00	0	+15
50601	L Ferdinand	Newcastle United	8.00	0	+61
50602	P Beardsley	Newcastle United	5.00	0	+32
50603	P Kitson	Newcastle United	2.50	0	+7
50604	M Allen	Newcastle United	0.50	0	0
50605	D Huckerby	Newcastle United	0.50	0	0
50701	E Sheringham	Tottenham Hotspur	6.00	+1	+59
50702	C Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	+1	+42
50704	R Rosenthal	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+26
50801	K Gallen	Queens Park Rangers	4.50	0	+15
50802	B Allen	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	+4
50803	D Dichio	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	+22
50805	M Hateley	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	0	+8
50901	D Holdsworth	Wimbledon	4.00	0	+30
50902	J Goodman	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+14
50903	M Harford	Wimbledon	1.00	0	+10
50904	G Blissett	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
50905	A Clarke	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+7
50906	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	2.50	0	+22
50907	J Euell	Wimbledon	1.50	0	0
51001	M Le Tissier	Southampton	8.00	0	+19
51002	N Shipperley	Southampton	2.50	0	+34
51003	G Watson	Southampton	2.00	0	+15
51004	C Maskell	Southampton	0.75	0	0
51101	M Hughes	Chelsea	4.00	0	+22
51102	M Stein	Chelsea	2.50	0	+6
51103	J Spencer	Chelsea	2.50	0	+24
51104	P Furlong	Chelsea	2.50	0	+9
51201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.50	0	+39
51202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.50	0	+30
51203	J Hartson	Arsenal	4.00	0	+9
51204	C Kiwomya	Arsenal	1.50	0	0
51206	P Dickov	Arsenal	0.75	0	+4
51301	D Hirst	Sheffield Wednesday	4.00	0	+37
51302	M Bright	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+27
51303	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+20
51304	O Donaldson	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	+3
51305	M Degryse	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	0	+26
51306	D Kovacevic	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	0	+3
51401	T Cottee	West Ham United	4.50	+1	+31
51403	M Boogers	West Ham United	2.00	0	-3
51404	I Dowie	West Ham United	0.75	+1	+23
51501	D Ferguson	Everton	6.00	+3	+13
51502	D Amokachi	Everton	2.00	+3	+22
51503	P Rideout	Everton	3.00	0	+28
51504	G Stuart	Everton	2.00	+1	+37
51601	D Dublin	Coventry City	4.50	0	+40
51602	P Ndlovu	Coventry City	4.00	0	+20
51605	N Lamptey	Coventry City	1.00	0	+3
51606	N Whelan	Coventry City	1.50	0	+14
51701	U Rosler	Manchester City	5.50	0	+30
51702	N Quinn	Manchester City	4.00	0	+23
51705	G Creaney	Manchester City	2.50	0	+11
51706	R Ekelund	Manchester City	2.50	0	+1
51801	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	4.00	+1	+38
51803	D Yorke	Aston Villa	3.00	+3	+39
51804	T Johnson	Aston Villa	2.50	+1	+22
51901	J Fjortoft	Middlesbrough	5.00	0	+24
51902	J Hendrie	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	+6
51903	P Wilkinson	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+2
51904	N Barmby	Middlesbrough	4.00	0	+32
52001	J McGinlay	Bolton Wanderers	3.00	0	+30
52003	M Paatelainen	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	+7
52004	F De Freitas	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	+18
52005	N Blake	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	0	+2

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Ov
60101	R Harford	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	0	+30
60201	A Ferguson	Manchester United	4.00	+6	+47
60301	F Clark	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+37
60401	R Evans	Liverpool	4.00	0	+40
60501	H Wilkinson	Leeds United	3.00	0	+30
60601	K Keegan	Newcastle United	4.00	0	+51
60701	G Francis	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	+1	+41
60801	R Wilkins	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	0	+5
60901	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	1.00	0	+16
61001	D Merrington	Southampton	1.50	0	+16
61101	G Hoddle	Chelsea	2.50	0	+34
61201	B Rioch	Arsenal	3.50	0	+30
61301	D Pleat	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+16
61401	H Redknapp	West Ham United	1.00	-1	+15
61501	J Royle	Everton	2.00	+1	+33
61601	R Atkinson	Coventry City	1.50	0	+12
61701	A Ball	Manchester City	1.50	0	+11
61801	B Little	Aston Villa	2.50	+3	+40
61901	B Robson	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+27
62002	C Todd	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	+2

THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY JANUARY 30 1996

NEWS

Students to face £300 entrance fee

■ Universities are to abandon their commitment to the principle of free higher education and impose a £300 entry fee under plans disclosed last night.

Vice-chancellors said that after six years of funding cuts and the doubling of student rolls, they had no alternative but to seek a fresh source of cash to safeguard standards. Under the proposals about 140,000 students starting next year would have to pay before being admitted to lectures .... **Page 1**

Woman under police protection raped

■ A woman placed under police protection after a man stalked her for five months suffered a two-hour rape ordeal at his hands in her home. The married mother was so terrified by the attack two weeks ago that she was unable to give the police a full account of her ordeal for several days .... **Page 1**

'Gutter' politics

John Major and the Labour leadership traded insults about their records on law and order, with Tony Blair accusing the Tories of seeking to fight the next general election "in the gutter" ..... **Page 1**

Bodies recovered

Royal Engineer bomb disposal experts worked their way inch by inch through a minefield and thick snow to reach three British soldiers killed by a mine in Bosnia-Herzegovina .... **Pages 1,5**

MI5 controls spelt out

The Government has bowed to protests from police and opposition parties and will outline clear legal controls over MI5's new role in tackling gangs and drug *dealing* .... **Page 2**

Leisure can wait

Thirty-three council workers who shared a £10 million lottery win at the weekend all turned up for work yesterday, helping the *homeless* .... **Page 3**

Pilot dies at controls

A pilot collapsed and died with a suspected heart attack as he was preparing to land a passenger jet in Spain with 220 British holiday-*makers on board* .... **Page 3**

Secret of stones

Clues to a burial mound dating from as long ago as 3,000 BC have been found inside the Neolithic henge and stone circle at *Avebury in Wiltshire* .... **Page 5**

Tube blaze award

A musician who was badly burnt in the King's Cross Tube fire in which 31 people died was awarded £650,000 in agreed High Court damages .... **Page 6**

Homework network

A Labour government would set up a national network of "homework centres" where pupils could do their homework out of school hours, Tony Blair said. Bright pupils would be offered fast-track learning .... **Page 8**

Jungle mission

A new attempt is to be made to solve one of the great mysteries of exploration, the disappearance of Colonel Percy Fawcett in the Amazon jungle in 1925............ **Page 9**

Floods kill four

Flash floods caused by torrential rain swept through the Hérault region of southern France, leaving at least four people dead and hundreds stranded .... **Page 10**

Britain rebuffed

Britain's diagnoses of crisis over European monetary union were dismissed by its partners as little more than wishful thinking which must not be allowed to *slow progress* .... **Page 10**

Fears for sanity

Relations of John du Pont, the multimillionaire murder suspect captured after an armed siege, had repeatedly tried to commit *him to a mental hospital* **Page 11**

Life (of a sort) may survive on Mars

■ Mars could contain primitive forms of life similar to those that existed on Earth billions of years ago, according to scientists meeting in London this week. A new phase of space exploration is about to begin to investigate the possibility of life on Mars. If found, it would boost the statistical chance of intelligent life elsewhere in the universe .... **Page 6**

MICHAEL POWELL

Maxwell Wood, 15, struggling to school near Tealby, Lincolnshire, as snow continued to blanket most of Britain yesterday. Page 1

BUSINESS

Jobs: A joint venture including British Aerospace is aiming to scoop the lion's share of a looming British Airways order for regional jets .... **Page 23**

On the buses: Employees of GM Buses South Holdings of Manchester will receive a 1,000 *per cent* return on their investment after a takeover by Stagecoach ..... **Page 23**

Forte: Marriott Corporation said it had turned down an offer by Granada to swap the Meridien and Exclusive hotel chains for various Marriott assets in America **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 0.1 points to close at 3734.6. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 83.1 to 83.2 after a rise from $1.5028 to $1.5075 but a fall from *DM2.2414 to DM2.2398* .... **Page 26**

SPORT

Football: Bryan Robson's name will be chief among those discussed by the FA international committee as successor to Terry Venables, the England coach.............. **Page 44**

American football: The Dallas Cowboys established themselves beyond doubt as the team of the Nineties with their 27-17 victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers in the Super Bowl .... **Page 42**

Television: England v Scotland in the European championship finals will be shown exclusively by the BBC, who, with ITV, will be showing all 31 matches in the tournament live.......................... **Page 44**

Racing: Frankie Dettori, the champion jockey, returns to action in the last two races at Lingfield after a seven-week holiday .... **Page 41**

ARTS

Fugard's song: At the Royal Court in London, the distinguished South African writer Athol Fugard is preparing for the British premiere of his new play *Valley Song*, for which he is also director and leading actor .... **Page 37**

Material issue: Bill Woodrow's show at the Tate Gallery is a series of powerful sculptures that satirise materialistic greed .... **Page 38**

Pianist portrayed: John Ogdon, the brilliant British pianist who went mad and died a few years ago, is portrayed in *Virtuoso*, a new play .... **Page 39**

Musical nights: The Mavericks, hottest of country bands, have opened a British tour; the Emerson String Quartet continue their Beethoven cycle........................ **Page 37**

FEATURES

Recycling the classics: The remake of the Fifties film *Sabrina Fair* as *Sabrina* is symptomatic of a Hollywood trend away from risk, says Joe Joseph .... **Page 13**

Down's syndrome tests: Medical science can advise women on the likelihood of their child being born with Down's syndrome. But Julia Llewellyn Smith finds this can cause more stress and heartache than it saves .... **Page 13**

BODY AND MIND

Early to bed: Does snoozing for longer make us healthier and more alert, or simply waste time awake? Jeremy Laurance looks at the arguments and investigates insomnia cures.................................. **Page 12**

LAW

Juries on trial: The verdict on the Maxwell brothers has focused attention again on the jury system, amid growing calls for some proper research...................... **Page 31**

THE PAPERS

The days of bear hugs and political partnership with the Russian leader are over. Washington now owes Mr Yeltsin a blunt condemnation of his drift away from economic reform — *The New York Times*

While Mrs Clinton faced the grand jury alone last week, she was really in the dock for collaborative activity involving her husband

— *The Washington Times*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Dunlop's tyres and Ferguson's tractors are celebrated in *Local Heroes* (BBC2, 7.30pm). **Review:** Peter Barnard relishes the tale of the first Royal Yacht **Page 43**

OPINION

It took a rape

Neither America nor Japan can afford to downplay the central strategic argument for the security treaty: it is the only serious force for stability in a region which has yet to put behind it the perils of the Cold War .... **Page 15**

Could do better

Mr Blair took on the fundamentalists in his party over common ownership, he should do the same on comprehensives .. **Page 15**

An exiled mind

No student of Brodsky has an excuse for critical oblivion. Nor will that exiled mind face oblivion itself — not for as long as some men and women read and others are driven by politics from their homes .... **Page 15**

COLUMNS

LIBBY PURVES

This child, the consensus has it, should be back at her school desk in Braintree. And, given that her rather dim-sounding parents agreed to the escapade, many opine that she ought to be in council care .... **Page 14**

MAGNUS LINKLATER

As attention turns to the Scottish education system, we should see it *for what it is*. A highly flexible internal procedure is operated by the teachers themselves. "Setting" and "streaming", which grades pupils according to ability, is inherent in the 5-14 programme....... **Page 14**

PETER RIDDELL

In the American mid-term elections in 1990, two of the Democratic (yes, Democratic) candidates for Governor of Texas put out competing advertisements about which had authorised or been present at more executions .... **Page 8**

OBITUARIES

Joseph Brodsky, poet; **Ian Dawson-Shepherd**, founder of the Spastics Society; **Maldwyn Rowlands**, librarian.................. **Page 17**

LETTERS

Regions under-represented in draft BBC Charter; use of National Lottery funds; prison staffing **Page 15**

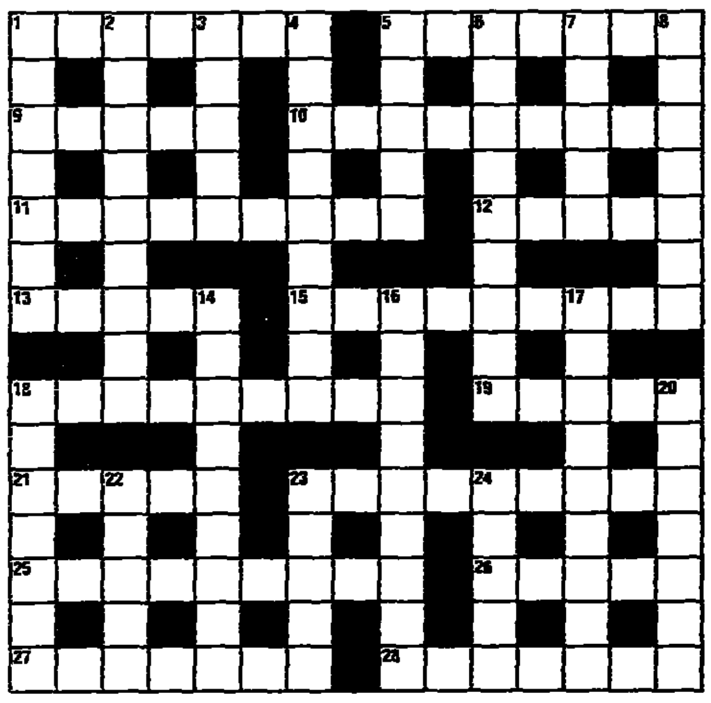
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ FASHION
Quintessentially British: the look of understated elegance

■ INTERFACE
The race to create a global mobile phone network, plus: win a £1,500 computer and software package

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,077



ACROSS
1 Mining town in manufacturing area suffering hard loss (7).
5 Cut more cheese with iron slicer, finally (7).
9 Feeling irritated or malicious, biting head off? (5).
10 Angrily declares there's only a picture! (6,3).
11 Port wine to finish (9).
12 Just one day in Rome, old cardinal points out (5).
13 Star gives backing to cricket side I run (5).
15 Awful bunkum's getting lines for a dolt (9).
18 Passed, it's obvious, with a range of knowledge (9).
19 Charlie in top form, very musical (5).
21 Work of fiction female accomplished (5).
23 Reserved section in Cardiff I'd entered (9).
25 One hoping to be selected and play test? No way! (9).
26 Demoralise a would-be peacemaker (5).
27 Judge top-class horse this person had to run (7).
28 In retreat, 'e joined in the action (7).

DOWN
1 Laundry equipment or something similar, by the sound of it (7).
2 Figure that's about 100? Get confused (9).
3 Fashion writer of old-fashioned sort (5)
4 Priest with special talent, say, to become a prize-winning author (9).
5 Obliged to impose restrictions (5).
6 One country's units invading another country (9).
7 Escaped from predator up north (5).
8 No option for buyer (7).
14 New title given to boxing, producing another generation of boxers? (9).
16 Female novelist in a male preserve (9).
17 Person living in troubled region must learn to adapt (9).
18 Senior person in charge goes in to volunteer (7).
20 Home stretch? Moved with passion (7).
22 Group playing endlessly and very loudly in Scottish town (5).
23 Fly, bird (5).
24 North American people forming one special unit (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,076

REPENTANCE■AQUA
O■A■A■N■A■■■U■S
VETERINARY■CARP
E■E■R■O■M■M■R■I
■CLIO■UNADOPTED
S■L■W■N■N■N■E■I
PHARMACY■SKATES
E■■■I■E■S■E■■■T
LAMENT■PLAYGOER
L■A■D■S■I■W■R■A
BUTTERCUP■RAGE■
O■I■D■O■O■E■A■L
ULNA■PROVENANCE
N■E■■■C■E■C■Z■A
DEED■CHURCHYARD

Times Two Crossword, page 44

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code

Greater London	[illegible]
Kent Surrey Sussex	[illegible]
Dorset Hants & IOW	[illegible]
Devon & Cornwall	[illegible]
Wilts Gloucs Avon Soms	[illegible]
Berks Bucks Oxon	[illegible]
Beds Herts & Essex	[illegible]
Norfolk Suffolk Cambs	[illegible]
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	[illegible]
Shrops Herefds & Worcs	[illegible]
Central Midlands	[illegible]
East Midlands	[illegible]
Lincs & Humberside	[illegible]
Dyfed & Powys	[illegible]
Gwynedd & Clwyd	[illegible]
N W England	[illegible]
W & S Yorks & Dales	[illegible]
N E England	[illegible]
Cumbria & Lake District	[illegible]
S W Scotland	[illegible]
W Central Scotland	[illegible]
Edin S Fife Lothian & Borders	[illegible]
E Central Scotland	[illegible]
Grampian & E Highlands	[illegible]
N W Scotland	[illegible]
Caithness Orkney & Shetland	[illegible]
N Ireland	[illegible]

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at all other times

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	[illegible]
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	[illegible]
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	[illegible]
M25 London Orbital only	[illegible]
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	[illegible]
West Country	[illegible]
Wales	[illegible]
Midlands	[illegible]
East Anglia	[illegible]
North-west England	[illegible]
North-east England	[illegible]
Scotland	[illegible]
Northern Ireland	[illegible]

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at all other times

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.42 am
Sun sets: 4.45 pm
Moon sets: 3.38 am
Moon rises: 12.28 pm

Full moon February 4

London 4.45 pm to 7.42 am
Bristol 4.55 pm to 7.51 am
Edinburgh 4.40 pm to 8.11 am
Manchester 4.46 pm to 7.57 am
Penzance 5.11 pm to 7.53 am

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be generally cloudy, with a few light snow showers in eastern England. The cloud will break and there will be bright or sunny spells during the afternoon.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will be generally cloudy, with a few snowflakes in eastern parts. The cloud will break to give bright or sunny spells in the afternoon

☐ **London, SE, Cent S, Cent N England, Midlands:** Cloudy, a few snowflakes, some brighter spells. Wind moderate easterly. Cold. Max 2C (36F)

☐ **E Anglia, E, NE England, Borders, E'burgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Cent Highlands:** Cloudy, odd light snow shower, some brighter spells later. Wind moderate easterly. Max 2C (36F)

☐ **Channel Is, SW England, S Wales:** Cloudy, outbreaks of light rain or sleet. Wind mod. to fresh easterly. Max 4C (39F)

☐ **N Wales, NW Eng., Lakes, IoM, N Ireland:** Cloudy, bright spells, a few light snow showers. Wind mod easterly. Max 3C (37F)

☐ **SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll:** Mainly dry with good sunny spells. Wind moderate easterly. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** Mainly dry, some sunshine. Wind light to mod easterly. Max 4C (39F)

☐ **Outlook:** Cloudy, bright spells. Sleet into the south later on Thursday

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

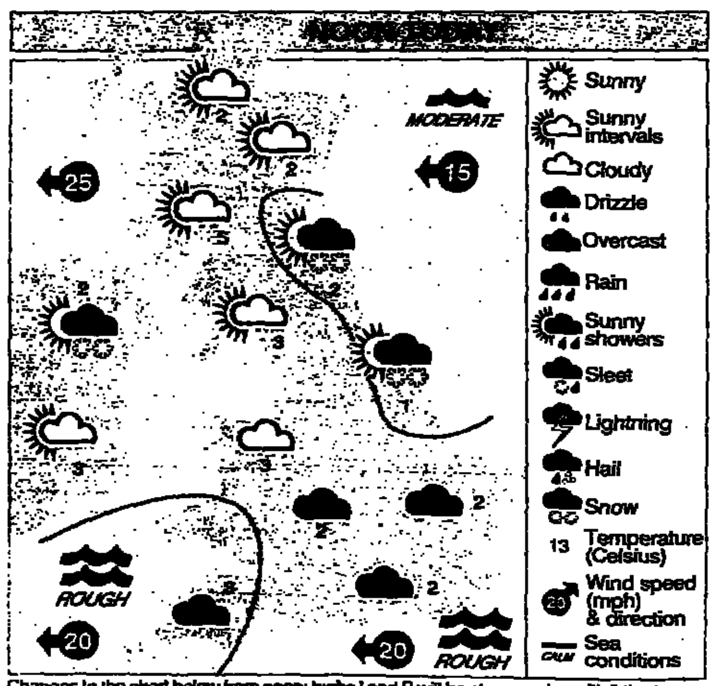
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.6	-	4	39	c	Lerwick	3.2	0.02	6	43	sh
Anglesey	7.1	-	2	36	s	Leuchars	0.2	-	3	37	c
Aspatria	0.4	-	2	36	du	Littlehampton	-	-	1	34	du
Aviemore	1.9	-	2	36	b	Liverpool	-	-	1	34	sn
Belfast	0.9	-	3	37	h	London	-	-	1	34	c
Birmingham	x					Lowestoft	-	-	1	34	du
Bognor R	-	-	1	34	du	Manchester	-	-	2	36	c
Bournem'th	-	-	1	34	du	Margate	-	-	1	34	du
Bristol	-	-	1	34	du	Minehead	-	-	0	32	du
Buxton	-	-	-1	30	c	Morecambe	0.1	-	3	37	du
Cardiff	-	-	0	32	sn	Newcastle	-	-	3	37	c
Clacton	-	-	1	34	c	Norwich	-	-	1	34	c
Cleethorpes	x					Nottingham	x				
Colwyn Bay	x					Oxford	-	-	0	32	du
Cromer			1	34	[illegible]	Penzance	x				
Doncaster	x					Plymouth	x				
Dunbar	x					Poole	-	-	3	37	c
Eastbourne	-	-	1	34	du	Prestatyn	x	-	0	32	sn
Edinburgh	0.4	-	3	37	b	Ross-on-wye	-	-	0	32	du
Eskdalemuir			0	32	c	Sandown	-	-	3	37	c
Exmouth	-	-	1	34	c	Saunton Snd	-	-	1	34	du
Falmouth	-	-	4	39	c	Scarboro'	-	-	2	36	du
Fishguard	2.9	-	3	37	b	Shanklin	-	-	1	34	c
Folkestone	-	-	1	34	du	Shrewsbury	-	-	0	32	sn
Glasgow	0.6	-	3	37	s	Skegness	-	-	1	34	c
Guernsey	-	-	5	41	c	Southend	-	-	1	34	du
Hastings	-	-	1	34	c	Southport	-	-	2	36	du
Hayling I	-	-	1	34	c	Southsea	-	-	1	34	c
Herne Bay	-	-	1	34	du	Stornoway	7.1	-	5	41	s
Hove	-	-	1	34	du	Swanage	-	-	2	36	c
Hunstanton	-	-	1	34	du	Teignmouth	-	-	2	36	du
Ilfracombe	x					Tiree	4.9	-	5	41	s
Isle of Man	-	-	3	37	c	Torquay	-	-	2	36	du
Jersey	0.1	-	4	39	c	Tynemouth	x				
Kinloss	2.2	-	3	37	s	Ventnor	-	-	1	34	du
Leeds	-	-	2	36	c	Weymouth	-	-	1	34	c

ABROAD

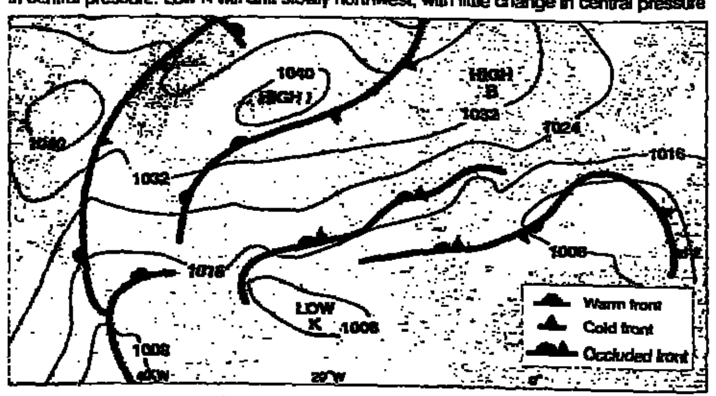
	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	f	C'phagn	-4	25	c	Malaga	13	55	c	S Paulo	33	91	f
Akrotiri	17	63	f	Dublin	2	36	r	Malta	18	64	f	Salzburg	-3	27	c
Alex'dria	19	66	f	Dubrovnik	13	55	f	Melb'rne	19	66	f	Santiago	33	91	s
Algiers	17	63	f	Faro	14	57	f	Mexico C	x			Seoul	2	36	sn
Amst'dm	-1	30	s	Florence	12	54	f	Miami	24	75	s	Sing'por	25	77	r
Athens	12	54	c	Frankfurt	0	32	f	Milan	8	46	c	Stckholm	-2	28	fg
B Aires	30	86	h	Funchal	15	59	f	Montreal	-10	14	[illegible]	Strasb'rg	1	34	s
Bahrain	20	68	s	Geneva	3	37	c	Moscow	-9	16	sn	Sydney	25	77	c
Bangkok	32	90	s	Gibraltar	14	57	s	Munich	-4	25	s	Tangier	15	59	c
Barbados	29	84	f	Helsinki	-3	27	c	N Delhi	16	61	s	Tel Aviv	17	63	c
Barcelona	13	55	f	Hong K	19	66	s	N York	1	34	s	Tenerife	19	66	f
Beirut	17	63	f	Innsbrck	2	36	s	Nairobi	27	81	f	Tokyo	11	52	s
Belgrade	1	34	c	Istanbul	4	39	f	Naples	12	54	d	Toronto	-5	23	f
Berlin	3	37	s	Jeddah	31	88	s	Nice	13	55	c	Tunis	15	59	s
Bermuda	19	66	f	Jo'burg	15	59	f	Oslo	-5	23	s	Valencia	16	61	f
Biarritz	10	50	f	Karachi	25	77	s	Paris	2	36	f	Vanc'ver	-4	25	sn
Bord'x	14	57	f	L Angels	14	57	s	Peking	4	39	s	Venice	7	45	f
Brussels	0	32	s	L Palmas	20	68	s	Perth	25	77	c	Vienna	3	37	c
Budapst	0	32	fg	Le Touqt	0	32	f	Prague	-3	27	c	Warsaw	-4	25	c
Cairo	19	66	s	Lisbon	13	55	f	Reykjvik	-1	30	s	Wash'ton	2	36	f
Cape Tn	24	75	s	Locarno	6	43	c	Rhodes	15	59	s	Wel'ngton	15	59	c
Ch church	19	66	s	Luxembg	-4	25	c	Rio de J	33	91	s	Zurich	-2	28	c
Chicago	-7	19	f	Luxor	23	73	s	Riyadh	20	68	s				
Cologne	0	32	c	Madrid	6	43	f	Rome	12	54	f				
Corfu	14	57	f	Majorca	14	57	f	S Fr'sco	11	52	s				

Temperatures at midday local time. X – not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: highs I and B will be slow-moving with little change in central pressure. Low K will drift slowly northwest, with little change in central pressure



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	9.35	5.9	10.09	5.9	Leith	10.41	4.4	11.13	4.4
Aberdeen	9.41	3.6	10.12	3.6	Liverpool	7.12	7.3	7.46	7.5
Avonmouth	2.26	10.0	3.15	10.1	Lowestoft	5.33	2.1	6.04	2.1
Belfast	7.21	3.0	7.55	3.0	Margate	7.40	3.9	8.25	3.8
Cardiff	2.30	9.3	2.57	9.5	Milford Haven	1.49	5.2	2.29	5.3
Devonport	1.07	4.3	1.48	4.2	Newquay	0.48	5.1	1.22	5.1
Dover	6.46	5.4	7.34	5.3	Oban	1.25	2.8	2.54	3.0
Dublin (N Wall)	7.51	3.5	8.16	3.4	Penzance	0.25	4.3	12.58	4.3
Falmouth	0.45	4.1	1.08	4.1	Portland	1.17	1.4	1.53	1.3
Greenock	7.43	2.9	9.12	2.8	Portsmouth	7.00	3.9	7.57	3.7
Harwich	7.13	3.1	7.58	3.1	Shoreham	6.44	4.8	7.31	4.7
Holyhead	6.37	4.4	7.05	4.5	Southampton	6.37	3.7	7.24	3.6
Hull (Albert D)	1.43	5.9	2.26	5.9	Swansea	1.47	7.1	2.34	7.2
Ilfracombe	1.25	6.9	2.13	7.0	Tees	11.54	4.2	-	-
King's Lynn	2.11	5.1	2.43	5.1	Walton-on-Naze	7.20	3.4	7.58	3.4

Crown copyright reserved. All times GMT. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Sumburgh, Shetland, 7C (45F); lowest day max: Little Rissington, -2C (28F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, Shetland, 0.12in; highest sunshine: Stornoway, Hebrides, and Anglesey, 7.1hr.

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7

LAW 31-33

David Pannick, QC, on what Labour needs to do

ARTS 37-39

Athol Fugard brings a new South Africa to the Royal Court

SPORT 40-44

Cowboys ride off once more with Super Bowl spoils

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY JANUARY 30 1996

Joint venture homes in on collapse of Fokker

BAe seeks record order to keep jobs

FROM ROSS TIEMAN IN TOULOUSE

AERO International Regional, a joint venture that includes British Aerospace, is aiming to win the lion's share of a British Airways order for regional jets by offering up to 40 British-built planes in a $1 billion package.

A successful bid for what is likely to be the world's biggest regional jet order would guarantee jobs at British Aerospace's Woodford factory near Manchester for two years.

Prospects that the four-engined Avro RJ jets, built by Avro International in Manchester, will be selected have improved since Fokker, Avro's chief rival, sought protection from creditors.

The sales campaign will be led by AIR, a joint regional aircraft marketing and support venture launched earlier this month by British Aerospace, Aerospatiale of France, and Alenia of Italy.

Jeff Marsh, AIR's chief salesman, said versions of the Avro would be offered to meet all of BA's needs from 80 to 100 seats. That will still leave AIR's remaining rivals, Boeing and McDonnell Douglas of America, and Airbus, the European consortium in which BAe has a 20 per cent stake, bidding to supply up to 20 larger planes.

In what is likely to prove one of the toughest aircraft sales campaigns, AIR will face stiff competition from the 100-seat MD-95, the 110-seat plus Boeing 737-600 and the 125-seat Airbus A319. BA needs the planes to replace 33 ageing Boeing 737-200 twin-jets in its own fleet and those of its partners, Deutsche BA in Germany and TAT in France, and to increase capacity on feeder services backing up its long-haul operations.

Mr Marsh said that AIR would offer a mixture of new aircraft and leased versions of the RJ's forerunner, the BAe 146 "whisper jet". After winning a record 50 orders for the RJ last year, Avro has a shortage of capacity on its production line.

The company plans to deliver 27 aircraft this year, up from 21 during 1995. BAe has been hesitating over increasing output in the hope that shortages will drive up the value of more than 100 BAe146s owned by BAe's Asset Management Organisation, a leasing company.

At the same time, AIR is competing with McDonnell and Boeing to sell 10 regional jets to Saudia, the Saudi national airline, together with a similar number of planes needed by the Saudi military in a $500 million package.

AIR also announced a Fr1 billion order for 15 ATR-42 turbo-props, each carrying 44 passengers, from French regional carrier Air Littoral. The planes will be assembled in Toulouse by ATR, BAe's French-Italian partner in what is now the world's leading regional aircraft company.

Henri-Paul Puel, AIR's chief executive, said that sales last year reached Fr7 billion (£910 million). Of that, some £390 million was generated by Avro, a similar amount by ATR, and the remaining £130 million was earned by Jetstream, the BAe turbo-prop subsidiary at Prestwick, Strathclyde.

But while Avro is enjoying unprecedented sales success in Europe, ATR has been held back in America, previously its chief market, by the crash of an ATR-72 at Chicago in 1994 with the loss of 68 lives.

M Puel said the AIR companies had secured 26-27 per cent of the world market for aircraft from 20 seats to 120 seats last year. Saab of Sweden won a 10 per cent share, while Daimler-Benz of Germany, and its subsidiary Fokker, had achieved a 12 per cent share.

M Puel repeated his invitation to Daimler-Benz subsidiary Dasa to become a partner in AIR. Although he was sorry to see Fokker had sought protection from creditors and a buyer was being sought, he believed that the removal of surplus capacity would help the market.

ALAN WELLER

Tea for two: John Barnes, left, shares a Giant Harry's Challenge with Ian Daly, managing director of Compass's New Famous Foods, yesterday

Compass takes Harry Ramsden's for a world trip

BY SARAH BAGNALL

HOMESICK British tourists may soon be able to munch their favourite fish and chips as they sit whiling away the hours in airport lounges around the world.

Compass Group, the UK's largest contract caterer, has secured exclusive worldwide rights to use the brand of Harry Ramsden's, the world's most famous chippie.

Compass plans to follow British holidaymakers abroad by opening sites in international airports in popular tourist destinations. Ron Morley, company secretary at Compass, said the group had not pinpointed actual locations but there were numerous possibilities, such as holiday spots in Spain and Italy as well as in the Far East and Australia.

Starting life off in a small wooden shack at Guisley near Leeds in 1928, Harry Ramsden now comprises 15 outlets spread from Bournemouth to Hong Kong. The restaurants serve up chips fried in beef dripping and fish cooked in a secret batter recipe in surroundings more reminiscent of a smart hotel. This means each outlet has tablecloths, chandeliers, carpets and waitresses sporting black and white uniforms.

John Barnes, chairman at Harry Ramsden, said: "It is very much a bit of showbiz. We have those standards where ever we go." He said the deal gives the company access to areas it currently could not afford to enter and means "British tourists can get a little bit of Britain abroad".

The business was floated in 1989 at 100p and yesterday's news sent the shares up 36p to 311p — an all-time high. Compass intends to open at least 15 sites around the world over the next five years. Under the terms of the deal, Compass Group can develop sites in numerous locations including airports and railway stations while Harry Ramsden retains the rights to develop its high street outlets.

The two companies have links from 1991, when they opened a site in Heathrow Terminal One, which proved very successful. Compass said the Harry Ramsden brand will form part of its New Famous Foods portfolio, which includes Burger King, Pizza Hut and Upper Crust. Compass shares were unchanged at 478p.

Marriott rules out swap with Granada

BY ERIC REGULY

MARRIOTT Corporation, one of the world's largest hotels groups, said yesterday that it had turned down an offer by Granada to swap the Meridien and Exclusive hotel chains for various assets in America.

The assets are thought to be Marriott's extensive catering operations, which account for about half of the group's annual turnover of $8 billion. Neither Marriott nor Granada would provide details. A Marriott spokeswoman in Washington said: "Granada approached Marriott with that deal, but Marriott rejected it."

Granada took control of the chains when it won the £3.8 billion takeover battle for Forte last week. It wants to sell the luxury hotels and concentrate on budget hotels and catering. Meridien and Exclusive, whose 103 properties include the Grosvenor House in London, are valued at about £1.6 billion.

The Marriott spokeswoman hinted that the company was interested in acquiring Meridien and Exclusive through a method other than an asset swap. "We'll talk to anyone about anything," she said.

Marriott is one of four or five groups in the running for the chains. Others are thought to include Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, the leveraged buyout specialist, ITT Sheraton of America, and Accor of France, which competed with Forte for control of Meridien in 1994.

Sir Rocco Forte, former Forte chief executive, has said he wants to buy back the chains. JP Morgan, SG Warburg and Morgan Stanley, his advisers, are trying find partners to support his bid.

UCI a picture of optimism with £100m expansion

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

UCI, the cinema chain, yesterday premiered a blockbuster £100 million expansion plan to open six new multiplexes across the country by the end of 1997.

The company is aiming to cash in on the renewed popularity of cinema-going and fight off growing competition from rivals such as Warner Brothers.

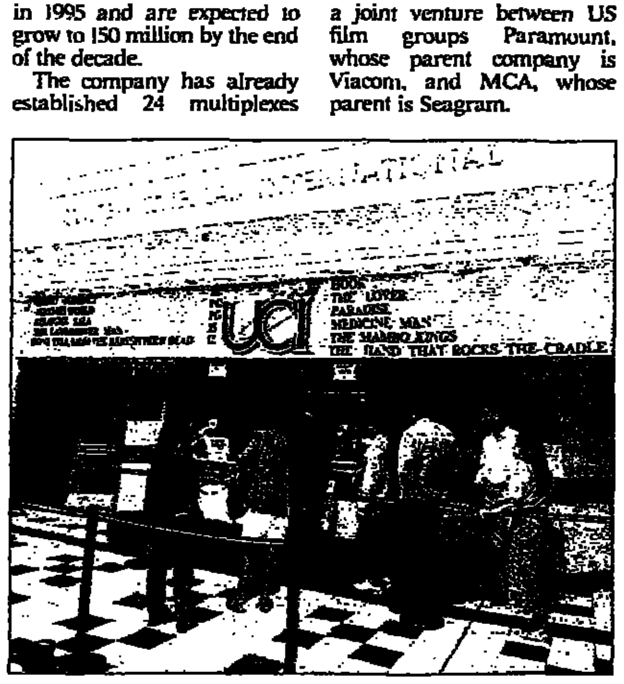
The six new developments will be in Manchester, Crystal Palace and Docklands in London, Cardiff Bay, Leeds and Dublin and will create around 1,000 jobs over the next two years.

UCI was established in 1985 and has been responsible for popularising multiplexes in the UK and helping revive the cinema industry. Attendances have more than doubled in the past ten years from a low of 54 million in 1984 to 120 million in 1995 and are expected to grow to 150 million by the end of the decade.

The company has already established 24 multiplexes across the country, as well as managing prestige cinemas such as the Empire in Leicester Square, London. Each multiplex incorporates between nine and 12 screens and has a seating capacity of up to 3,500.

David Harris, operations director at UCI, said that the company was looking at a further ten developments but was also considering smaller multiscreen ventures in town centres. He said: "It is not easy to win planning permission for out-of-town developments at the moment, and smaller developments can help revive city centres."

Last year UCI cinemas attracted 21 million customers and had a turnover of £100 million. Around one third of revenue comes from ancillary sales, including drinks, foods and film merchandise. UCI is a joint venture between US film groups Paramount, whose parent company is Viacom, and MCA, whose parent is Seagram.



UCI plans six new multiplexes by the end of next year

Stagecoach offers ticket to riches

BY ERIC REGULY

EMPLOYEES of GM Buses South Holdings of Manchester will receive a 1,000 per cent return on their investment after the company's purchase by Stagecoach, the largest bus operator.

Stagecoach has agreed to buy GMBS for £40.7 million, equivalent to £10 a share. About 1,600 employees, who own 51 per cent of GMBS, subscribed to shares at £1 each in March 1994. Six managers, who collectively own 198,000 shares, will come out with almost £2 million. The return was not enough to make millionaires of any of the employees.

GMBS, which has 2,000 employees and 750 buses, is Stagecoach's largest bus company purchase. Its annual turnover of about £51 million will raise the turnover of the Stagecoach group, including South West Trains, to about £770 million.

Shareholders of GMBS can take Stagecoach shares, five-year loan notes or cash. NatWest Venture Investments and Montagu Private Equity Investments, the two insitutions that own 49 per cent of GMBS, have agreed to take cash.

Almost half of the purchase price was financed though the private placement yesterday of 6 million Stagecoach shares at 331p. The shares closed at 366p, up 18p.

Ross Griffiths, commercial director of GMBS, said: "The board has received what it considers the right offer, including employee protection."

Stagecoach said there would be no compulsory redundancies at GMBS for three years. It said the purchase will enhance earnings from the onset. The private placement will help to reduce gearing to about 100 per cent by the end of April, from 144 per cent in October.

Tempus, page 26

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3734.6	(-0.1)
Yield	3.83%	
FT-SE A All share	1829.69	(+0.34)
Nikkei	20589.20	(-74.64)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5283.31	(+11.56)*
S&P Composite	622.50	(+0.88)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	$5\frac{3}{8}$%*	($5\frac{1}{2}$%)
Long Bond	$110\frac{13}{16}$*	($111\frac{11}{32}$)
Yield	6.08%*	(6.05%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	$6\frac{7}{32}$%	($6\frac{7}{32}$%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	$110\frac{17}{32}$	($110\frac{13}{16}$)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5068*	(1.5035)
London:		
$	1.5073	(1.5030)
DM	2.2369	(2.2412)
FFr	7.6960	(7.6960)
SFr	1.8186	(1.8152)
Yen	161.06	(160.33)
£ Index	83.2	(83.1)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4846*	(1.4915)
FFr	5.1060*	(5.1345)
SFr	1.2080*	(1.2107)
Yen	106.80*	(106.63)
$ Index	96.6	(96.8)

Tokyo close Yen 106.67

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Apr)	$15.80	($16.15)

GOLD

London close	$405.75	($406.25)

* denotes midday trading price

Share prices

We have updated our prices page today to bring the listings into line with the categories drawn up by the Financial Times-Stock Exchange actuaries committee. The business services sector has disappared, spirits and wines become alcoholic beverages and breweries now include pub and restaurant groups. **Page 29**

Pay talks

Britain's largest pay negotiations opened yesterday with a 2.4 per cent offer to 1.5 million workers. **Page 24. Philip Bassett, page 27**

Banks add to gloom on mortgages

BY JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BANKS reported a sharp drop in demand for mortgages in December, rounding off what the British Bankers' Association called a dismal year for the housing market.

Seasonally adjusted net lending by the leading British banking groups fell 20 per cent from November's £686 million to £554 million in December.

New approvals were also well down on November. These figures are not seasonally adjusted but the BBA said that the drop to 19,241 from 29,291 in November was much larger than the one between November and December 1994.

Yesterday's banking figures confirm the picture of weaker mortgage lending by building societies published last week. The BBA put a brave face on the news, saying that recent interest rate cuts and growth in incomes point to firmer conditions in the housing market this year.

John Lee Hooker.

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PETER TREVNOR

Under canvas: Richard Atkinson, chief executive of Eurocamp, left, with Robert Baddeley, finance director, after announcing yesterday's figures

Shares sag on lower bookings at Eurocamp

SHARES in Eurocamp, the camping tour operator, fell 21p to 230p yesterday, on a warning that camping bookings are down 20 per cent on the same period last year (Jon Ashworth writes).

The slump was blamed on the weak market for 1996 summer holidays. Careful campsite management has buoyed occupancy levels, in spite of the slower rate of bookings.

The company made a pretax profit of £9.3 million (£8.7 million) in the year to October 31, of which £1.2 million was contributed by Superbreak, the UK short break operator purchased by Eurocamp last summer.

Richard Atkinson, chief executive, said: "Trading conditions remain difficult for our camping businesses but we anticipate an improvement as summer draws closer. We also expect the favourable performance of our hotel breaks to continue." Turnover rose to £87 million (£70.2 million), of which £10.7 million was contributed by Superbreak. Earnings per share were unchanged at 22.4p. A final dividend of 7.25p (6.90p) a share makes an 11p (10.5p) total.

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.13	1.97
Austria Sch	16.77	15.27
Belgium Fr	49.09	44.79
Canada $	2.185	2.025
Cyprus Cyp£	0.754	0.699
Denmark Kr	9.29	8.49
Finland Mkk	7.42	6.77
France Fr	8.12	7.47
Germany Dm	2.40	2.19
Greece Dr	392.00	367.00
Hong Kong $	12.29	11.29
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1300	4.4800
Italy Lira	2517.00	2362.00
Japan Yen	174.60	158.60
Malta	0.589	0.534
Netherlds Gld	2.664	2.434
New Zealand $	2.41	2.19
Norway Kr	10.41	9.61
Portugal Esc	244.50	226.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.26
Spain Pta	197.50	184.50
Sweden Kr	11.12	10.32
Switzerland Fr	1.95	1.77
Turkey Lira	refer	89097.0
USA $	1.603	1.473

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

HSBC to fuse Montagu and Capel operations

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

HSBC is to merge the James Capel securities house and Samuel Montagu merchant bank from April as part of its drive to compete in Europe and to increase its share of the international advisory and capital-raising markets.

The two names, among the oldest in the City, have been maintained separately since HSBC's takeover of Midland Bank in 1992, prompting speculation that it had been looking for a stronger name than Samuel Montagu to put together with James Capel. However, it has now decided to merge the two on an international basis under the HSBC Investment Banking brand.

James Capel's origination business, including international equity capital markets and equity syndication, will be transferred into HSBC's investment banking division, one of two new investment banking divisions. The UK corporate finance activity will trade as HSBC Samuel Montagu.

The securities division will be made up of a slimmed-down James Capel that will concentrate on institutional sales, trading and research and will trade globally as HSBC James Capel.

Around 400 of the investment bank's 5,700 staff will be affected by the change in reporting lines. Bernard Asher, chairman of HSBC Investment Banking, said that the intention was not to cut jobs, although there may be some overlap.

The James Capel name, which dates from 1775, will remain as a private client broker, James Capel & Co, and Samuel Montagu, founded in 1853, will remain as a private bank.

The investment bank will drop both names over time. Peter Letley, deputy chairman of *HSBC* Investment Banking, said the UK market is not ready for that step. "The structure enables us to act in an integrated capacity if a client wants us to do so. If a client wants a single capacity service, there is HSBC Samuel *Montagu corporate finance* and HSBC James Capel offering corporate broking. "The two names would disappear when customers were comfortable with it, he said.

Mr Asher went on: "HSBC is a fantastic name. It is one of the largest banks in the world with a global reach second to none." One of the aims of the move is "to avoid marginalisation in a world of growing competitiveness". It would also enable the bank to make better use of its capital.

Mr Asher added that the bank was not considering acquisition, although Mr Letley and Keith Harris, head of the new investment banking division, both said that the bank might consider an acqui*sition in the United States at a* later stage.

Fund to target finance initiative

By Carl Mortished

THE first equity fund to target the Government's Private Finance Initiative was launched yesterday with the backing of Hermes Investment Management and Amp Asset *Management.*

The institutions have each subscribed £25 million to the Innisfree PFI Fund, which is seeking to double its initial capital to £100 million by April with further support from pension funds and insurance *companies.*

Innisfree PFI will invest in government-sponsored infrastructure projects such as hospitals, roads, bridges and prisons undertaken by large contractors, such as Tarmac.

Based on government forecasts, the market is worth about £25 billion and the fund will take a minority stake, typically 25 per cent, in projects worth more than £25 million. Innisfree's directors estimate that, fully geared, the £50 million seed capital could involve the fund in infrastructure projects worth up to £2 billion.

Innisfree hopes to get returns of more than 20 per cent from its investments, much higher than the 10-16 per cent available from the 25-30 year life of a typical PFI project.

According to David Metter, chief executive, the rate of return will be boosted by gearing the financing to 80-90 per cent and focusing investment on the first years of the project.

He said: "The higher risk is in the early part of the project. There is an opportunity through refinancing or exiting the project to get that higher return."

Innisfree is structured as a limited partnership, allowing institutions to receive an untaxed income from the fund. The fund expects to recoup its investment by selling on its interest in projects directly to income funds or through flotations.

The fund will be run by Innisfree Management, a new company backed by Roger Brooke, chairman of *Candover Investments, and* Mr Metter.

MCI and Microsoft to work together

MCI COMMUNICATIONS and Microsoft, targeting the growing market for online communications services, said yesterday that they agreed to jointly market and develop a range of online, Internet and networking services. Details on the size of each company's investment were not given. As the first phase, MCI will distribute the Microsoft Network, Microsoft's online service, which MCI will market as a customised version of MSN. MCI will adopt the Microsoft Internet Explorer as its preferred browser software for navigating the Internet network and package it as part of its Internet offering along with other Microsoft products, including the Internet Information Server and Microsoft Exchange Server.

Microsoft will market to users of its Microsoft Windows operating system a range of MCI services. These will initially include MCI Conferencing and MCI ISDN, it high-speed data transmission service, as well as other market services. Bert Roberts, MCI chairman, said: "With this new strategic *alliance, both companies* will work closely together to deliver and market integrated computer and communication services to the homes and workplaces of our customers."

Bullough suffers

SHARES in Bullough, the industrial holding company, fell 5p to 105p after the company announced a 17 per cent fall in profits to £14.5 million in the year to October 31. The company blamed losses at Atal, its French subsidiary, and the resulting £4 million provision for the decline. The share price has fallen 45 per cent, from 190p, since May last year. Gordon Bond, chief executive, said that the company had changed the management team at Atal and made a £2.2 million restructuring provision. The dividend was held at 6.05p.

Strike threat to bank

THE Royal Bank of Scotland is facing industrial action over allowances paid in London after members of the Banking Insurance and Finance Union backed a series of one-day stoppages by 449 to 227. Bifu will set a date for a one-day strike, unless talks are reopened. Sandy Boyle, deputy general secretary, said workers were angry about a five-year freeze on London allowances, which were now worth 20 per cent less than in 1991. The union is seeking a 16 per cent increase to lift the range of payments to between £1,620 and £4,000.

SCB repeats bid denial

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK denied for the second time in a week yesterday that it is in bid talks. It issued a curt Stock Exchange statement saying that "since May 1993, there have been no formal discussions or proposals which would involve the acquisition or merger of the company or the purchase of a strategic shareholding in the company". The move followed weekend speculation that it has held talks with three Swiss banks, SBC, UBS and Crédit Suisse, as well as NatWest and Bank of America. Shares fell 2p at 636p.

Lloyd's opens up review

LLOYD'S OF LONDON has invited the Association of Lloyd's Members (ALM) and the Litigating Names Committee (LNC) to join it in reviewing legal documentation relating to the proposed Lloyd's settlement. Sir David *Berriman, of ALM, and Michael Deeny, of LNC, will be* among representatives on the settlement agreement advisory group. Wilde Sapte, the solicitor, will be retained as legal adviser. The review is intended to ensure that the terms of the settlement are not prejudicial to members' interests.

HTV rights division

HTV, the ITV company in the West of England and Wales, has launched a rights division, Harvest Entertainment, which will sell the rights to its television, video, film, cinema, book and music publishing activities to media customers worldwide. The company said it will spend £25 million to develop the business, which, it predicted, would account for 70 per cent of profits by the end of the decade. Programmes to be exploited include *Budgie the Little Helicopter* and natural history documentaries such as *People of the Forest*.

Filtronic moves ahead

FILTRONIC, the electronics company, yesterday announced increased half-year profits of £2 million, up 34 per cent from last year. Turnover was up 26 per cent to £15.2 million. The company, which floated in 1994, specialises in microwave devices for celluar telecommunication systems. Filotronic has been a star stock market performer, with its share price increasing 320 per cent since flotation and yesterday closing up 35p at 440p. It will pay its first interim dividend of 0.75p, equivalent to the whole dividend paid in 1995, on April 1.

Trencherwood falls

SHARES in Trencherwood, the Newbury housebuilder, slipped 1p to 10p, on word of an expected dip in first-half profits. Pre-tax profits declined to £1.2 million (£2.1 million) in the year to October 31, during which John Norgate, Trencherwood's founder and chief executive, died. Bank loans for new housing sites increased from £750,000 to £23.1 million last year. Turnover slipped to £19.5 million (£23.3 million). Fully diluted earnings per share were 0.71p (1.35p). There is no dividend (nil).

Eldridge Pope revamp

ELDRIDGE POPE GROUP yesterday severed the traditional link between its beer and retail business by creating an independent enterprise within the group. Thomas Hardy Brewery, which aims to exploit shortages of quality bottling capacity in the UK, will now have to compete for business from the Dorchester-based group's retail division. Christopher Pope, the group chairman, said: "This forms part of our strategy to structure our business progressively into clearly defined enterprises which are managed independently."

West Merchant to buy Panmure

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

WEST MERCHANT BANK, the London investment banking arm of Westdeutsche Landesbank, is to buy Panmure Gordon, the City stockbroker, for an estimated £30 million.

The move is part of West Merchant Bank's aim to build up a pan-European securities business in the City. Patrick Macdougall, chief executive, said the bank had approached NationsBank, Panmure's parent, before Christmas, but the two sides had held serious talks only for the past ten days.

Mr Macdougall said that *having decided to move into* equities, the bank realised that it could acquire corporate relationships, research and distribution in one fell swoop with the acquisition of Panmure Gordon. The business comes with 260 staff

The stockbroker was bought in two chunks by NationsBank in 1985 and 1987. Richards Roddey, chief executive of NationsBank Europe, said: "We did not intend to sell it. We were approached by Westdeutsche Landesbank and they convinced us that it was more relevant to their strategy than it was to ours."

Panmure's net assets for the period to the end of 1994 were £9 million, but have increased in value since then to more than £10 million.

Mr Macdougall said there would be no "golden hello" payments to Panmure staff, but added that the bank was *in the business of safeguard*ing the assets of its businesses and acknowledged that this might mean guaranteeing bonus payments.

Lord McGowan, Panmure's chairman, said its acquisition would enable it to broaden its European focus.

Profits rise at Haynes

HAYNES Publishing increased pre-tax profits by 2 per cent to £2.2 million in the six months to November 30. Earnings per share were up 0.1p to 8.3p; the interim dividend, due April 30, has *increased from 4p to 4.5p.* John Haynes, chairman, above, said that general publishing had a bad six months and broke even at the operating level. However, the core car-manual business had improved.

Debate on pay grows as public offer is rejected

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

AS BRITAIN'S largest pay negotiations opened yesterday with a 2.4 per cent offer to 1.5 million workers, engineering leaders claim today that pay settlements in the industry are holding steady.

The negotiations are the first large-scale talks since the claim last week by Adair Turner, the Confederation of British Industry's Director-General, that real wages should rise in the longer term in order to sustain economic growth. Mr Turner's state*ment prompted a rash of* public criticism.

Employers of 1.5 million local authority workers yesterday put forward a 2.4 per cent pay offer, which was immediately rejected by trade unions.

Pay specialists argue that negotiations such as the local government deal are crucial for the private and public sectors alike.

Employers' leaders, who have been predicting that this year's pay talks would be difficult, said yesterday that paying more than the £300 *million* offered yesterday could lead directly to compulsory job cuts.

Arguing that most councils cannot afford any pay increase at all, employers' spokesman Charles Nolda said that a higher pay rise "would mean even more service cuts, even more job cuts. In many authorities we are no longer just talking about early retirement. For some this means compulsory redundancy."

Keith Sonnet, chief negotiator for Unison, said the offer was not the basis for a negotiated settlement: "It does not protect members from rising inflation and is not in line with increases elsewhere in the economy."

The employers' move came *as the EEF, the engineering* industry employers' federation, suggests today that the background of pay is largely stable.

In its latest pay bulletin, the EEF says that pay deals are holding steady after a two-year upward trend. Just under half of the settlements recorded by the EEF in the three months to December were for rises of 3-4 per cent, while a further third of deals monitored were for increases of 3 per cent or less.

At the same time, a fifth of wage agreements were for rises of more than 4 per cent. Average settlement levels are currently 3.5 per cent in the engineering industry.

Case for pay growth, page 27

Beale up 24% in first year

By Alasdair Murray

BEALE, the specialist department store, yesterday announced profits up by almost a quarter at £3.2 million after its first full year as a quoted company.

The company increased turnover by 7 per cent to £46.3 million, while profits rose 24 per cent excluding a £300,000 provision for flotation costs.

The dividend was raised by 40 per cent to 6.7p and shares closed unchanged at 250p, equalling their high, compared to a flotation price of 171p. The Beale Group, which targets the more affluent and mature consumer, was started in Bournemouth 115 years ago by the Beale family and about 80 per cent of the equity remains in family hands. The company now owns six stores across the country and said that it was looking to make further acquistions. The company said that its stores in Bedford, Bournemouth, Poole and Southport, Merseyside, had all increased trading profits, while the Winchester store achieved an operating profit for the first time. At the store in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, profits were down after refurbishments last year, while margins improved across the group.

Michael Mitchell, left, with Ken Owst, finance director

Michael Mitchell, chief executive, said that the company had made a promising start to trading in the new year. Sales have increased by 6.6 per cent on the nine weeks to December 31.

Ken Coates, chairman, added: "The current year has started encouragingly and the company faces the future with confidence, in the knowledge that it has achieved the principal objectives set prior to flotation."

The dividend is payable on April 9.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Intention
to apply for a Zoo Licence
I SHIRAYAMA SHOKUSAN of.
Shirayama Shokusan Co. Ltd
County Hall, Riverside Building,
London SE1 7PB

Hereby give notice that in not less than two months after the publication of this notice I intend to make application to the Lambeth Council for a licence to operate a proposed zoo at County Hall.

A written notice of the intention to make application for a zoo licence, *giving details about the* proposed zoo, has been sent to the said council. This may be inspected, free of charge, at the office of the Council at: 26 Wanless Rd, London SE24 0HW. Between the hours of 9am and 5pm.

Signed: S Shokusan

LEGAL NOTICES

GLENCAR EXPLORATIONS
(UK) LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS'
VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
COMPANY NUMBER: 2034117

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: On 9 October 1995 the above company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Martin Fishman was appointed Liquidator by the Members.

The Liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the *creditors of the company must* send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to Martin Fishman, Arthur Andersen & Co, PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT by 29 February 1996.

The Liquidator also gives notice under the provision *of* Rule 4.182A(6) that on 1 March 1996 he intends to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 29 February 1996 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors. The final return to creditors will be made without regard to the claim of any person in respect of a debt not already proved

The company is able to pay all of its known creditors in full.

Dated 25 January 1996.

Martin Fishman, Liquidator.

No. 0047 of 1996

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT

IN THE MATTER OF
NOMURA EUROPE PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 24th January 1996 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 25th January 1996.

Dated: 30th January 1996

Linklaters & Paines (DTL)
Barrington House,
59-67 Gresham Street
London EC2V 7JA

Solicitors for the above-named Company

4 CORNERS (UK) LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD on Wednesday 7 February 1996 at 12.00 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.

Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2) (a) of the Act, Mr B Lord of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require

DATED 24TH of January 1996.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
MR V HURLEY, DIRECTOR.

RAPIDE METAL SPINNING
AND POLISHING CO. LTD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 9th February 1996 at 4 Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN, at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.

Dated 19th day of January 1996
By Order of the Board
R E COOPER, Director

No. 007523 of 1996
IN THE HIGH COURT
OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER of
DATA SCIENCES LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER of
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 17 January 1996 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £60,877,800 to £30,383,296.19 and the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named company by £3,336,000 and the Minute approved by the High Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 19 January 1996.

Dated the 30th of January 1996.
FRESHFIELDS
of 65 Fleet Street,
London, EC4Y 1HS.
Solicitors
for the above-named Company

CHANDRIS AVIATION LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that DAVID ALAN ROLPH of MOORE STEPHENS BOOTH WHITE, 1 SNOW HILL, LONDON, EC1A 2EN was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 22nd January 1996.

Creditors are required, on or before 22nd February 1996, to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts to the Liquidator and, if so required by notice in writing from the Liquidator, are to come in and prove their debts or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated 22nd day of January 1996.
David A Rolph, Liquidator.

JOHN BOWDEN LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a general meeting of members of John Bowden Limited will be held at Smith & Williamson, No 1 Riding House Street, London W1A 3AS on 21 February 1996 at 10.30 am and will be followed by a meeting of creditors at 11.00 am for the purposes of receiving an account of the Liquidator's acts and dealings and of the conduct of the winding-up to date.

A member or creditor entitled to attend or vote at either of the above meetings may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in their place. A proxy need not be a member or creditor of the Company. Proxies for both meetings must be lodged at No 1 Riding House Street, London, W1A 3AS no later than 12.00 noon on the business day proceeding the meetings.

DATED this the 18 day
of January 1996.
Michael Francis Stevenson.
Liquidator.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

WOLF, PAUL of 54 HOLLAND ROAD, LONDON W14 8BB died on 8TH FEBRUARY 1995 particulars to FARRER & CO Solicitors of 66 LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS, LONDON WC2A 3LH ENGLAND before 31ST MARCH 1996.

هكذا من الأصل

☐ Bank may have passed sell-by date ☐ Waiting for Greenspan to cut ☐ Where silence is golden in the City

Backing the Standard response

☐ IF STANDARD Chartered had really been receiving informal takeover approaches from any number of Swiss, US and British banks over the past three weeks, Patrick Gillam, its chairman, would probably have cancelled a two-week skiing holiday in the US and postponed business trips to Asia this month.

The fact that he did not suggests that, true to the party line, there have been no approaches, informal or otherwise. That does not mean that Swiss Bank Corporation, UBS, Crédit Suisse, Bank of America, NatWest *et al* would not be interested at the right price.

But the time and price for such a move was eighteen months or two years ago. Even last year would have been better, when Standard Chartered's shares were at 247p. Now they stand at 636p, a price that analysts say reflects a serious re-rating.

Standard Chartered, like Zeneca, Thorn EMI and most recently Ladbroke, is seen as one of that select bunch of obvious bid stocks where only the last punter in will lose money in these toppy markets. Yet rational analysis suggests the shares are where they are today mainly on fundamentals, that is, the prospects for growth in the Far East. Standard Chartered should, therefore, maintain this price on its own, and analysts say the shares could even reach 700p without looking stretched.

More than half of Standard Chartered's profits come from Asia Pacific, a proportion that can only rise. The bank is well placed to move into the promised land of South China in the longer term, and into other markets in the region as banking licences become available.

Yesterday's curt statement denied formal discussions, or proposals which would involve the acquisition or merger of the company, or the purchase of a strategic shareholding in the company, or by implication any other link as yet undreamt of by the gossip-mongers. As if to disprove the existence of any bid premium, the shares then fell just a couple of pence, and that on the back of a weak Hong Kong market.

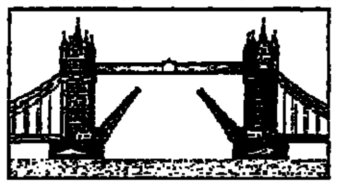
Lloyds recognised the value of Standard Chartered's Far Eastern franchise in July 1986, when it built up a hostile stake after two formal offers for the bank failed. Speculation that another bid was in the offing continued for the next nine years until, in April 1995, Lloyds finally sold its 4.69 per cent stake in the market. Given estimates of an £8 billion take-out value of Standard Chartered by a hostile bidder, the goodwill write off involved would be far too great for NatWest to consider, and probably too much even for the other candidates.

Each of the banks said to be interested in a bid might be interested in a reasonably sized stake in the bank, a friendlier version of Lloyds' hostile investment. However, Standard Chartered's denial suggests that if any of them are considering such a thing, they have yet to inform Standard Chartered.

Why Fed rates above the rest

☐ THE politicians' grand plan for European Monetary Union may be falling apart but the markets seem curiously unperturbed. There is good reason for their equanimity. The foreign exchange markets have always had an abiding distaste for the whole idea of fixing currencies because it means less business.

PENNINGTON



Apart from some pre-emptive buying of marks in anticipation that the mighty German currency will not, after all, be traded in for the shaky Euro, they seem content to watch EMU's implosion with quiet satisfaction. There is plenty of time for fireworks once the politicians catch up with reality.

The shorter-term reason why the world's bond and equity markets have been doing so well is the belief that interest rates are heading downwards. The Bundesbank has made clear that, although it will stick to its orthodox position of worrying about M3 money supply and keep official rates on hold, it is perfectly happy to drive down market rates — hardly a surprise, given the fragile state of the German economy and its European satellites.

Thankfully, there is no such craving for monetary orthodoxy in America, where market attention turns today. The US Federal Reserve is that prince among central banks, unencumbered with ideology and positively rich in pragmatism. Alan Greenspan has always cautiously pursued the goal of the maximum growth obtainable without inflation, happy to cut rates as long as inflation is low and the bond markets are supportive even if there is no real evidence of economic weakness. This is the key reason why US rates can be expected to fall again. The odds marginally favour the March meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee, rather than today's, because of a number of God and man-made factors. Those man-made include a Boeing strike and two government shutdowns, which depressed growth and meant that many key statistics were delayed. God intervened with winter blizzards which will also have dampened output. The Fed may want to see a more normal run of data before a decision. But, with the markets expecting a cut, Mr Greenspan may see no need to wait.

A crack in the Chinese wall

☐ SOME of the worst cases of insider trading have come after breaches of the Chinese wall between highly paid and intrinsically unprofitable analysts and those in corporate finance or elsewhere within the same integrated securities house who daily wade knee-deep in filthy lucre. HSBC is well aware of the danger from the loss of even the odd brick from that wall.

The bank's problem, along with almost everyone else in the City, is that the analysts' research can be useful to boost that corporate finance work, but there is no way of cross-subsidising that research or ensuring the analysts are rewarded. Yesterday's merger of James Capel and Samuel Montagu involves a brave stab at this.

The aim is that analysts at Capel should be paid for providing research to the Montagu corporate finance department. The risk here would seem to be to the broker-client relationship.

If a company lets on to its corporate broker during an informal chat that it would quite like to bolt on a swizzle-stick manufacturer to its existing operations, that company is going to be a little unnerved to learn from that broker's corporate finance arm the next day that one such is indeed on the market, at a given price. Alternatively, the company might be quite pleased at such an example of one-stop shopping — but the finance director will be very careful what that analyst learns thereafter.

Qualities of despair

☐ RESPECT, drive, initiative, determination, self-discipline and a willingness to learn: none of them come to mind immediately when the average school-leaver walks in the door. Yet they are identified as the main qualities sought by employers of young people in a deeply depressing survey by the oxymoronically named Industry in Education. Most employers would settle for rather less. A glancing familiarity with written English, for example, an ability to communicate other than by grunts, knuckles that managed to clear the ground ...

Midshires will not ward off speculators

By Anne Ashworth

DESPITE a 25 per cent increase in new accounts, the Birmingham Midshires Building Society announced yesterday it would not keep speculators at bay by raising its minimum deposit from £100. The society cited concern for small savers as the reason. Recently, some competitors have imposed a £2,500 minimum.

The society has always said it has no wish to seek a merger or become a bank. An investment of £100 gains voting rights in a society and a benefit from any flotation payout or free share distribution. Mike Jackson, chief executive, said: "Building societies are the natural home of the small saver and genuine customers have had the door slammed in their faces in the past few weeks."

Elsewhere, a pressure group has been formed to urge the Bradford & Bingley to seek a market flotation, rather than return £50 million of profits to members in a mutuality benefits package of improved savers' rates and discounted mortgages.

Michael Hardern, the funder of Members for Conversion claims B&B could be worth £1.5 billion, about £750 per member. The body intends to requisition a special meeting to discuss the future of the society. Dr John Wriglesworth, head of strategy, said: "The idea that a saver can place £100 with us and immediatly lay claim to a £750 equity stake is legally wrong."

Persimmon buys Ideal Homes from Trafalgar for £170m

By Carl Mortished

CHRIS HARRIS

Duncan Davidson, chairman, said commercial confidentiality prevented him from disclosing the value of tax losses

TRAFALGAR HOUSE has sold Ideal Homes, its housebuilding arm, to Persimmon for £170 million in a deal which leaves little room for Beazer Homes to mount a competing bid. The acquisition will turn Persimmon into Britain's fourth largest housebuilder, selling 6,000 homes per year.

Beazer had protested that it was shut out of the bidding for Ideal this month when Trafalgar offered an exclusive negotiating period to Persimmon. Yesterday's deal, which Persimmon is financing in part by a one-for-two rights issue, is subject to the approval of Persimmon and Trafalgar shareholders.

Beazer said yesterday that it was still interested in buying Ideal Homes but the company will have to intervene quickly to seek the support of Trafalgar shareholders who will vote on the Persimmon deal on February 22. Dennis Webb, chief executive of Beazer, said an offer from Beazer would depend on their assessment of Ideal's tax losses.

"We believe there are tax losses. We said we would pay a premium to net assets but we will have to see Persimmon's figures," he said.

Persimmon said the deal would enhance earnings but its directors were cagey yesterday on the numbers that lay behind their prediction. Duncan Davidson, chairman of Persimmon, said commercial confidentiality prevented him from disclosing the full value of the tax losses in Ideal Homes. "It's perfectly possible for another bidder to come in," he said. "We expect our tax charge to be significantly below the stated 33 per cent rate." Persimmon is raising £91 million in a one-for-two rights issue at 155p per share to help to finance the £170 million purchase price which represents a premium to the net asset value of Ideal Homes last year of £151 million.

Ideal Homes sells 2,600 houses per year, making operating profits of £18.6 million in the year to September and Mr Davidson described the two companies as a good fit, extending Persimmon's operation into Wales and the South West. The company will take a charge of £2 million for the cost of cutting the number of regional offices by six to 15. Gearing is expected to rise to 60 per cent post the acquisition but will fall to 50 per cent by the end of the year.

Persimmon suffered from a two-point fall in operating margin in the year to December because of the weak housing market. The company estimates that pre-tax profit in 1995 was £22.5 million, down from £24.3 million in 1994.

Persimmon sold 3,593 homes last year, fewer than expected. Mr Davidson said that December sales showed an uplift on the previous year and he expects an uplift of 3 per cent in house prices. Persimmon forecasts a final dividend of 6.5p.

Tempus, page 26

Daiwa sells US assets to Sumitomo

By George Sivell

DAIWA BANK has sold its American assets just days before the US deadline set for the Japanese bank to quit the country over the $1.1 billion of bond losses revealed last year and allegations of misleading US regulators.

Daiwa yesterday announced the sale of more than $3 billion worth of its US business assets to Sumitomo Bank of Japan.

The two banks said they had agreed Daiwa would transfer loans and related business assets worth $3.3 billion from its US branches and New York trust bank unit to Sumitomo by Friday.

Sumitomo would also pay Daiwa $65 million for rights to the business at 15 of its US branches and its trust bank arm, Daiwa said. It did not know when payment would be made. Daiwa has 17 branches in the US, two of which are expected to close.

Analysts in Tokyo said the banks' decision had been widely expected and came as no surprise to the market.

"The deal is unlikely to give much benefit to Sumitomo or boost its earnings," said Nozomu Kunishige, assistant general manager at Kleinwort Benson International. "It's just aimed at helping out Daiwa."

In November US authorities served the bank with a 24-count criminal indictment after it revealed it had suffered $1.1 billion in losses as a result of unauthorised bond deals by one of its traders in New York. They ordered the bank to close its doors in the US by Friday.

Daiwa has denied the charges and vowed to fight them. The allegations include the accusation that it covered up the losses. Banking analysts said the shutdown would have a gradual negative impact on Daiwa's overall international operations.

Daiwa says it has a total of $4.3 billion in loans and other transactions in the US. The remaining $1 billion would be transferred to its parent body in Japan.

Analysts believed the assets Sumitomo had agreed to take were mostly good loans, and that Daiwa would be left with most of its problem loans in the US. Daiwa also had other types of assets there, including securities, the bank said, and it was likely that some would be sold.

Presidents of the two banks have said they will consider a merger if the right time comes.

BANK OF SCOTLAND

INTEREST RATE CHANGE

With effect from 29th January 1996, interest rates payable on the undernoted accounts have changed.

MONEY MARKET CHEQUE ACCOUNT	Gross%*
£250,000 and above	5.75
£100,000 to £249,999	4.75
£25,000 to £99,999	4.50
£2,500 to £24,999	3.75

BANKING DIRECT CHEQUE ACCOUNT	Gross%*
£100,000 and above	4.75
£25,000 to £99,999	2.00
£10,000 to £24,999	1.50
£5,000 to £9,999	1.00
Less than £5,000	0.25

MONEY MARKET BUSINESS CHEQUE ACCOUNT	Gross%*
£250,000 and above	5.75
£100,000 to £249,999	4.25
£25,000 to £99,999	3.75
£2,500 to £24,999	3.25

BANKING DIRECT INVESTMENT ACCOUNT	Gross%*
£250,000 and above	6.00
£25,000 to £249,999	5.50
£10,000 to £24,999	4.75
£5,000 to £9,999	4.00
Less than £5,000	3.25

BANK OF SCOTLAND
CENTREBANK DIVISION

*Gross – The annual rate of interest payable without the deduction of basic rate income tax to eligible non tax-payers. Interest payable monthly. Interest rates subject to variation.

Hanson takes control of Desimpel

By Alasdair Murray

HANSON, the industrial conglomerate, yesterday launched its first foray into the European brick market with the £125 million purchase of Desimpel Kortemark, a Belgian brickmaker.

Hanson has secured a controlling stake of 50.1 per cent in the company after offering the Desimpel family £62 million. It intends to buy out the minority stake on the same terms.

Desimpel owns 11 factories in Belgium, four in The Netherlands and France and one in the UK. The company made an operating profit of £17.3 million in the nine months to Spetember and has net debts of £70.5 million.

Richard Manning, managing director of Hanson Brick, said: "This acquisition is an exciting move into new markets and will establish Hanson Brick as a leading manufacturer of clay bricks in Europe."

Aime Desimpel, who founded the business, will be succeeded by his son, Kristoff.

Tempus, page 26

Buyout at Lep as receivers move in

By George Sivell

THE management buyout of Lep International, the Surrey global freight forwarder, from Lep, the troubled parent company, was completed yesterday.

Lep International said yesterday: "A one pound down payment has been made to facilitate the transfer of the ownership to the new holding company, Lep International Worldwide."

Meanwhile, Ian Bond and Mark Palios, insolvency partners with Coopers & Lybrand, were appointed as administrative receivers to Lep Group, the parent company and eight British non-trading subsidiaries. The parent company owes £127 million to a group of banks, led by National Westminster, which have already swapped £180 million of debts into equity.

Mr Bond said: "Even under the most optimistic scenario there will only be a partial return to the company's bankers. Unfortunately there is no possibility of any funds becoming available to shareholders." Shareholders will meet on February 16.

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STOCK MARKET **MICHAEL CLARK**

Lloyds Chemists soars on talk of bid by Germans

Abbey National fell after news of a drop in mortgage demand

JUST when shareholders of Lloyds Chemists were beginning to think the bid from UniChem was all over bar the shouting, there was talk of a rival bid from Gehe, the German pharmaceutical distributor.

It sent shares of **Lloyds Chemists** climbing 24p to 450p, one of the best performances of the day, as almost 3.5 million shares changed hands in a market where traders will normally restrict trading to parcels of 10,000.

Lloyds is already the subject of an offer of 412p a share from UniChem, valuing the company at £548 million. But whispers in the Square Mile suggest the Germans are poised to increase the stakes and make a counter offer, possibly with the object of making UniChem pay more. *UniChem lost 6p at 249p.* The German company was saying nothing last night.

Meanwhile, Standard Chartered, the international banking group, was busily playing down talk of a bid. A statement from the company said that no formal bid talks had taken place since Patrick Gillam had become chairman in May 1993.

There had also been no formal discussions or proposals which would involve the acquisition or merger of the company or the purchase of a strategic shareholding in the company.

This followed further claims at the weekend that Standard was being stalked by at least three European banks and the Bank of America. Earlier reports had linked it with **National Westminster Bank**, 2p firmer at 666p. Back in the 1980s Standard managed to fight off an unwanted bid from **Lloyds Bank**, down 8½p at 335p. **Standard Chartered** finished 2p easier at 636p.

Elsewhere, share prices started the week on a drab note ahead of today's meeting of the Federal Reserve Open Market Committee with investors hoping it will signal a further cut in US interest rates. In the event, a firm start to trading on Wall Street failed to inject a new lease of life into the FT-SE 100 index which had earlier reversed an early seven-point rise. It effectively closed all-square, registering a fall of just 0.1 at 3,734.6. This lack of enthusiasm by investors was reflected in turnover levels of just 664 million shares traded. **Abbey National** was an early casualty, dropping 18p to 614p after the latest figures showing that the demand for mortgages had dropped to its lowest level for some time.

This has led to revived fears of a price war among Britain's lenders. Last week, Bradford & Bingley and DirectLine cut their mortgage rates and others are expected to follow. James Capel, the broker, and the Abbey's broker, SBC Warburg, rubbed salt in the wounds by altering their recommendations from a "buy" to a "hold".

Farnell Electronics, which has seen its share prices drop sharply since announcing plans to treble the size of the company with the acquisition of Premier in the US, rallied 18p to 630p after talking to a number of institutional investors. The shares tumbled from 680p to 610p when details of the deal filtered through.

Persistent takeover talk lifted **Ladbroke Group** 5p to 174p. Reports suggest that its financial position makes it vulnerable to an unwanted takeover. *Speculators* have been linking its name with **Bass**, up 3p at 729p.

Trafalgar House was unchanged at 32¼p after confirming plans to sell its Ideal Homes housebuilding division to Persimmon for £170 million. Trafalgar wants to use the proceeds to reduce debt. **Persimmon** plans to raise £91 million towards the cost of the acquisition with a rights issue on the basis of one-for-two at 155p. Its shares retreated 4p to 191p, but were underpinned by the promise that the acquisition, which moves it from eighth place to fourth among British housebuilders, will be earnings enhancing from the word go. But pre-tax profits for the year just ended are expected to drop by £2.7 million to £22.5 million. The dividend will be maintained.

A profits warning left **Quality Software** nursing a fall of 168p at 540p. The group said profits for the current year would fail to live up to City expectations. It blamed contract delays during 1995 which would have to be taken into account during 1996. The group also had costs of £500,000 relating to the reorganisation and rationalisation of the business. Analysts had originally been looking for a profit figure of £3.5 million.

News of a profits setback left **Bullough**, the office furniture supplier, 5p lower at 105p. Losses in France left overall profits last year down from £17.5 million to £14.5 million.

Stagecoach, the bus operator, accelerated 18p to 366p. The group is paying £40.7 million for GMS Buses, which operates 750 buses in the Greater Manchester area. The deal will be financed by the issue of new shares and a placing of shares at 331p to raise almost £20 million. The 1,800 workers who invested £1,000 in GMS two years ago as part of a management buyout will receive £10,000 each.

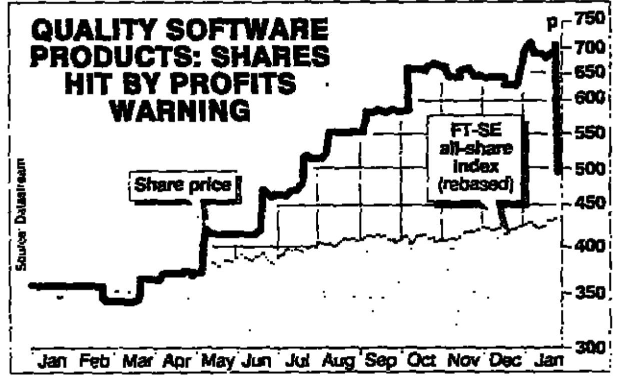
☐ **GILT-EDGED:** The London market mirrored falls among German bunds with an attempt at rallying after a sluggish start proving short lived. Prices closed near their low for the day with investors interest remaining at a low ebb ahead of this week's meeting of the FOMC and the gilt auction.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt traded in narrow limits before finishing £$^{9}/_{32}$ lower at £110$^{17}/_{32}$ as a total of 51,000 contracts were completed.

In the cash market, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2013 dipped £$^{9}/_{32}$ to finish at £102$^{3}/_{32}$, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 fell £$^{3}/_{32}$ to £104$^{15}/_{16}$.

☐ **NEW YORK:** The Dow Jones industrial average was up 11.56 at 5,283.31 at midday, reflecting strength in economically sensitive issues in anticipation of an interest rate cut this week.

A late rally left Gartmore 4½p better, at 250½p, after news that NationsBank, the US bank, was selling Panmure Gordon, its London broking arm, to WestLB. NationsBank, with 25 per cent of Gartmore, has been searching for a partner to acquire the 75 per cent stake held by Banque Indosuez.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	5283.31 (+11.56)
S&P Composite	622.50 (-0.88)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	20589.20 (-74.64)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	11058.97 (-52.90)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	505.61 (-0.85)

Sydney:

AO	2279.3 (+25.4)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2446.05 (+13.12)

Singapore:

Straits	2424.07 (-13.27)

Brussels:

General	8782.45 (+14.80)

Paris:

CAC-40	1980.68 (+13.95)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	718.50 (+0.40)

London:

FT 30	2769.4 (+3.1)
FT 100	3734.6 (-0.1)
FT-SE Mid 250	4089.1 (+3.5)
FT-SE-A 350	1854.9 (+0.3)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1539.25 (+2.85)
FT A All-Share	1829.69 (+0.34)
FT Non Financials	1926.45 (-2.83)
FT Fixed Interest	114.27 (-0.30)
FT Govt Secs	95.36 (-0.16)
Bargains	34063
SEAQ Volume	665.7m
USM (Datastrm)	200.86 (-0.75)
US$	1.5075 (+0.0047)
German Mark	2.2398 (-0.0016)
Exchange Index	83.2 (+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.1874
£:SDR	1.0368
RPI	150.7 Dec (3.2%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	149.6 Dec (3.0%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Ballynatray Hldgs	6	...
Century Inns	118	...
Dmatek	76	...
Jupiter Split Cap	85½	...
Jupiter Split Inc	98½	...
Jupiter Split Units	#59	...
MediaKey	68	...
Nthn Petlm Wrts	8	...
Revelation Plcc	105	...
Self Sealing Sys	55	...
SkyePharma B Wts	8	+ ½
Viewinn	180	+ 5

RIGHTS ISSUES

Berkeley Gp n/p (435)	69	+ 15
Eleco Holdings n/p (28)	¼	...
Persona n/p (225)	43	...
Western Sel n/p (14)	¼	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

H Ramsdens	311p (+36p)
Filtronic Com	445p (+40p)
CE Heath	159p (+10p)
Lloyds Chem	450p (+24p)
Osborne & Little	405p (+20p)
Stagecoach	366p (+18p)
Allied Text	239p (+10p)
Sothebys	985p (+40p)
Micro Focus	620p (+22p)
Danka Bus Systems	600p (+20p)
Celltech	673p (+16p)
Boots	619p (+12p)

FALLS:

Cons Murchison	124p (-17p)
Chamb Phipps	75p (-8p)
Eurocamp	230p (-21p)
Widney	100p (-8p)
Sherwood Comp	171p (-9p)
Cantab Pharms	505p (-23p)
Haynes Pub	278p (-10p)
Abbey National	614p (-18p)
Contecs	274p (-8p)
Jardine Math	545½p (-15p)
Lloyds TSB	335p (-8½p)
Photobition	339p (-8p)

Closing Prices Page 29

TEMPUS

Persimmon overkill

PERSIMMON has probably paid a sufficiently high price for Ideal Homes to prevent Beazer from mounting a rival bid for the homes business of Trafalgar House. Unfortunately, in its determination to discourage a competitor, Persimmon has been generous to a fault and, sadly, the company is asking shareholders to pay for its grand ambitions.

Persimmon was at pains yesterday to explain that size was not the justification for the acquisition. The deal catapults Persimmon from eighth to fourth place, ranking the company alongside Wimpey, Barratt and Beazer, and gives Persimmon exposure to Wales and the South West. Merging the two operations will doubtless yield savings — six regional offices will be scrapped — but the anticipated provision of £2 million for reorganisation costs suggest no great boost to the bottom line and Ideal's operating margin is no better than that of Persimmon, about 10 per cent of sales.

In a market suffering from prolonged recession, it makes little sense to pay dearly for assets. Optimists reckon house prices will move up with inflation this year, but transaction volumes are still sluggish, while land prices have fallen. Persimmon shareholders might ask why the company is paying more than £170 million for assets valued at £151 million last September. One argument is tax losses in Ideal Homes which could reduce Persimmon's tax rate from 31 per cent to under 25 per cent, but in the long term, tax is a poor excuse to pay top dollar for land. It is also a poor excuse to issue shares to finance the deal on a 7.5 per cent yield. Persimmon might find it better to buy back its shares.

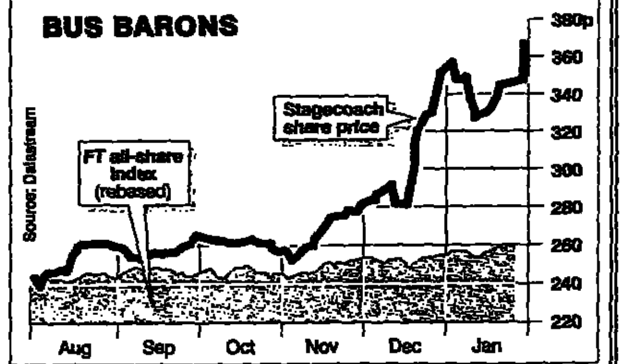
Stagecoach

PILLORIED by public and private interests alike, Stagecoach is the bus company that everyone loves to hate. The MMC branded its activities in Darlington: "predatory, deplorable and against the public interest," while the Office of Fair Trading has investigated it no fewer than 24 times.

The company still refuses to lie down. Stagecoach shares, which were already near their 52-week high, rose again yesterday on the news that the company has made another acquisition, this time GMBS in South Manchester. The City's investment houses, meanwhile, upgraded their profit forecasts for the next two years.

The Stagecoach strategy is to maximise the steady cash flow from a bus company. Margins are improved with the the purchase of more efficient buses and by creating economies of scale: the company is now large enough to demand hefty discounts on fuel, spare parts, insurance and the like.

Stagecoach has about 17 per cent of the bus market and can hope to raise it further to 25 per cent but Stagecoach is already making inroads into the privatised rail sector with South West Trains. Rail is another potential cash cow — the SWT franchise came with a £48 million dowry from pre-paid tickets — and Stagecoach has is on the shortlist of bidders for the East Coast main line. Shareholders should hang on for the ride.



Hanson

BRITAIN'S brick industry is feeling the pain from a flat construction market. Large companies, such as Hanson, Ibstock and Redland, are cutting capacity and swallowing smaller operations, such as Tarmac's brick division. Meanwhile, smaller players, such as Blockley, have suffered.

Hanson's move into the European brick market is recognition that the leading UK brick producer has little room for growth at home. Desimpel provides an instant 21 per cent market share in Belgium, 20 in France and 12 in The Netherlands. By extending its operations to the Continent, Hanson will not only expand its brick operations but also secure some protection against cyclical downturns in the UK.

However, the move is also a sop to a market that has punished Hanson's shares over the past few years because of its conglomerate label. By Hanson's standards the purchase is dull but makes sense in an investment market that awards premium ratings to companies perceived to have focused strategies.

Innisfree

BIDDERS for projects under the Government's Private Finance Initiative complain about the bureaucracy, delay and expense of the process, but one of the chief problems has been pricing and packaging the risk. After years of recession, Britain's contractors are not flush with funds and many have complained that returns — typically in the low teens — are not enough to justify locking up capital.

The Government's chances of finding support for £25 billion of PFI projects have improved with the backing of Hermes and AMP for the Innisfree PFI fund. Using their capital as equity and mezzanine finance, Innisfree will act in a similar way to a property developer, seeking a highly geared return from the early and most risky years of an infrastructure project. Once the project is up and running with a proven income stream, subsequent investors will demand more modest returns, allowing Innisfree to cash in a capital gain by selling its investment.

In order to justify returns of more than 20 per cent, Innisfree's backers will be absorbing some of the risk of cost overruns and completion of the project, but most PFI projects — roads, hospitals — are low-tech and the contractor's equity is a powerful incentive to performance. With revenue guarantees from the Government of 80 per cent or more, shareholdings in "PFI companies" should attract investors seeking high yields. Even without the flotation of PFI businesses, a liquid market in such investments could develop.

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COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	914-912	May	1029-1027
May	935-934	Jul	unq
Jul	956-955	Sep	—
Sep	972-971	Dec	—
Dec	991-990		
Mar	1019-1004	Volume	3505

ROBUSTA COFFEE (£)

Jan	2100-2000	Sep	1828-1825
Mar	2115-2110	Nov	1811-1810
May	1944-1942	Jan	1776-1775
Jul	1860-1855	Volume	11191

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	[illegible]
Spot	[illegible]	Dec	[illegible]
Mar	[illegible]	Mar	[illegible]
May	[illegible]	May	[illegible]
Aug	[illegible]	Volume	2015

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 26

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	108.64	130.32	119.50
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+2.71
Eng/Wales	108.94	130.74	119.34
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+2.72
[illegible]	[illegible]	-18.0	+4.0
Scotland	[illegible]	129.21	119.39
[illegible]	[illegible]	+6.35	+2.50
[illegible]	[illegible]	-11.0	-12.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.25	-0.85
Brent 15 day (Mar)	16.15	-0.55
Brent 15 day (Apr)	15.80	-0.55
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	17.30	-0.90
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	17.00	-0.50

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B 168 (-4)	O: 170 (+3)
Gasoil EEC	161 (+1)	163 (+1)
Non EEC 1H Feb	158 (n/c)	159 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Mar	158 (n/c)	159 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	93 (-2)	95 (-2)
Naphtha	165 (-1)	167 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Feb	154.75-55.00	May	144.50 SLR
Mar	149.50-49.75	Jun	142.50-43.75
Apr	146.50-46.75		Vol 27762

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	16.15-16.17	Jun	15.56-15.60
Apr	15.82-15.84	Jul	15.51 BID
May	15.67-15.69		Vol 36906

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	124.65	Mar	115.85
May	126.65	May	117.65
Jul	129.65	Sep	109.00
Sep	113.60	Nov	111.70
Nov	115.00	Jan	112.50
Volume	937	Volume	38

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	unq	200.0
Apr	150.9	175.5
May	unq	202.5
		Volume 120

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Feb 104.75-104.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 96	1524	1520	1524
Feb 96	1440	1440	1440
Mar 96	1445	1440	1445
Apr 96	1450	1440	1442

Vol: 45 lots Open interest: 4694

Index 1520 -9

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2500.0-2503.0	2461.0-2462.0	140835
Lead ($/tonne)	716.00-716.50	712.00-712.50	155450
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1014.5-1015.0	1033.0-1034.0	582150
Tin ($/tonne)	6185.0-6190.0	6235.0-6240.0	5540
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1532.5-1533.0	1562.5-1563.0	311275
Nickel ($/tonne)	8000.0-8005.0	8100.0-8110.0	64279

LIFFE OPTIONS

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 67745	Mar 96	3751.0	3758.0	3739.0	3748.0	8203
	Jun 96				3750.5	0
FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 3357	Mar 96				4100.0	0
	Jun 96					0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 396045	Mar 96	93.89	93.89	93.85	93.86	11631
	Jun 96	94.12	94.12	94.07	94.08	9529
	Sep 96	94.13	94.13	94.07	94.09	6506
Three Mth Eurodollar Previous open interest: 0	Mar 96				94.68	0
	n/a					
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 1136769	Mar 96	96.71	96.72	96.67	96.68	26149
	Jun 96	96.81	96.82	96.75	96.76	38043
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 143346	Mar 96	110-31	111-04	110-09	110-17	51199
	Jun 96	110-02	110-02	110-02	109-26	9
Japanese Govnt Bond	Mar 96	120.20	120.30	120.16	120.22	1032
	Jun 96	118.75	118.76	118.72	118.70	209
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 252809	Mar 96	100.72	100.72	99.86	100.06	192902
	Jun 96	99.55	99.55	99.30	99.32	65
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 22351	Mar 96	95.26	95.27	95.25	95.26	1068
	Jun 96	95.48	95.48	95.42	95.44	304
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 57072	Mar 96	98.18	98.18	98.00	98.04	10291
	Jun 96	98.19	98.19	97.97	97.99	10950
Italian Govnt Bond Previous open interest: 67546	Mar 96	111.15	111.32	110.25	110.52	47888
	Jun 96	110.20	110.20	109.99	110.07	51

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¼ Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O'night high: [illegible] Low [illegible] Week fixed: [illegible]

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible] Sell: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth 6

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Overnight: open [illegible] close [illegible]

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	6
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.40	n/a	5.35	5.21	5.11
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4-3
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5-4
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2-1
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $406.10-406.40 Close: $405.50-406.00 High: $406.00-406.50

Low: $404.00-404.50 AM: $405.45 PM: $404.50

Krugerrand: $405.25-407.25 (£267.00-269.00)

Platinum: $414.25 (£275.25) Silver: $5.54 (£3.665) Palladium: $126.75 (£84.20)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Jan 29	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5036-2.5128	2.5036-2.5069	[illegible]pr	2-1[illegible]pr
Brussels	45.92-46.16	45.92-46.02	12-9pr	33-29pr
Copenhagen	8.6500-8.6870	8.6540-8.6760	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Dublin	0.9621-0.9662	0.9630-0.9656	10-13pr	25-20pr
Frankfurt	2.2354-2.2440	2.2354-2.2385	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Lisbon	232.45-233.75	232.45-233.07	20-47ds	88-132ds
Madrid	189.60-190.53	189.88-190.17	39-49ds	120-137ds
Milan	2406.40-2415.60	2409.30-2413.30	6-7ds	20-23ds
Montreal	2.0731-2.0832	2.0802-2.0832	0.17-0.09pr	0.31-0.20pr
New York	1.5036-1.5076	1.5068-1.5078	0.11-0.09pr	0.30-0.27pr
Oslo	9.7880-9.8340	9.7990-9.8130	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Paris	7.6840-7.7210	7.6910-7.7050	[illegible]pr	3-2[illegible]pr
Stockholm	10.4900-10.5400	10.5150-10.5380	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Tokyo	160.07-161.19	160.92-161.19	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Vienna	15.7200-15.7800	15.7230-15.7490	[illegible]ds	[illegible]pr
Zurich	1.8172-1.8294	1.8172-1.8200	[illegible]pr	2-1[illegible]pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3497-1.3506
Austria	10.46-10.47
Belgium (Com)	30.60-30.61
Canada	1.3784-1.3789
Denmark	5.7600-5.7630
France	5.1125-5.1165
Germany	1.4880-1.4885
Hong Kong	7.7330-7.7340
Ireland	1.5595-1.5615
Italy	1599.80-1600.64
Japan	106.60-106.70
Malaysia	2.5580-2.5590
Netherlands	1.6666-1.6671
Norway	6.5192-6.5230
Portugal	154.92-155.02
Singapore	1.4182-1.4192
Spain	126.12-126.20
Sweden	6.9755-6.9855
Switzerland	1.2106-1.2111

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5050-1.5076
Australia dollar	2.0316-2.0336
Bahrain dinar	0.5610-0.5730
Brazil real*	1.4718-1.4759
China yuan	12.00 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.7050-0.7150
Finland markka	6.8025-6.9185
Greece drachma	367.75-374.75
Hong Kong dollar	11.6397-11.6451
India rupee	53.64-54.60
Indonesia rupiah	3415.00-3483.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4465-0.4565
Malaysia ringgit	3.8511-3.8544
New Zealand dollar	2.2558-2.2585
Pakistan rupee	51.46 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.4175-5.5415
Singapore dollar	2.1351-2.1376
S Africa rand (com)	5.4490-5.5510
U A E dirham	5.4650-5.5990

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	69	Land Secs	1,400
ASDA Gp	1,500	Legal & Gn	1,600
Abbey Ntl	9,400	Lloyds TSB	32,000
Allied Dom	1,100	Marks Spr	3,100
Argos	14	NatWst Bk	2,000
Argyll Gp	2,200	Nat Grid	6,400
AB Foods	492	Nat Power	1,300
BAA	4,900	P & O	4,600
BAT Inds	1,500	Pearson	342
BOC	266	Pilkington	3,300
BP	2,500	PowerGen	1,800
BSkyB	2,100	Prudential	3,100
BTR	5,000	REXAM	734
BT	7,600	RMC	98
Bk of Scot	3,700	RTZ	1,400
Barclays	3,100	Rank Org	1,600
Bass	2,200	Reckitt Col	224
Blue Circle	8,600	Redland	770
Boots	4,800	Reed Intl	1,400
BAe	2,100	Rentokil	347
BA	3,600	Reuters	1,600
Brit Gas	20,000	Rolls Royce	4,900
Brit Steel	11,000	Royal Ins	1,100
Burmah Cstl	279	Ryl Bk Scot	1,100
Burton	3,300	Sainsbury	6,300
Cable Wire	5,300	Schroders	221
Cadbury	615	Scot & New	528
Carlton Cms	492	Scot Power	1,100
Cm Union	1,100	Svrn Trent	586
Cookson	1,500	Shell Trans	3,000
Courtaulds	394	Siebe	1,300
Dixons	421	SmKl Bch	1,800
Enterpr Oil	1,500	Smith Nph	2,100
For & Col IT	338	Smiths Inds	297
Forte	12,000	Sthern Elec	110
GKN	327	Std Chand	3,800
GRE	301	Sun Allnce	603
GUS	4,400	TI Gp	206
Gen Acc	1,100	Tate & Lyle	1,100
Gen Elec	2,900	Tesco	2,200
Glaxo Well	7,700	Thames W	1,200
Granada	3,400	Thm EMI	591
Grand Met	1,200	Tomkins	3,500
Guinness	1,100	Unilever	3,600
HSBC	2,600	United Utils	700
Hanson	9,000	Vodafone	9,600
ICI	719	Whitbread	239
Kingfisher	1,100	Wllms Hld	1,200
LASMO	1,800	Wolseley	1,200
Ladbroke	7,500	Zeneca	949

WALL STREET

	Jan 29 midday	Jan 26 close
AMP Inc	37	37
AMR Corp	72	73
AT & T	65	64
Abbott Labs	40	40
Advanced Micro	20	20
Aetna Life	74	73
Ahmanson (HF)	23	23
Air Prod & Chem	51	51
AirTouch Comm	28	27
Alberto-Culver B	37	37
Albertson's	34	35
Alcan Aluminum	31	31
Alco Standard	38	39
Allied Signal	49	48
Alum Co of Am	53	52
Amax Gold Inc	9	9
Amerada Hess	53	52
Amer Brands	44	45
Amer El Power	44	43
Amer Express	44	43
Amer Genl Corp	36	35
Amer Home Pr	98	98
Amer Intl	90	90
Amer Stores	26	25
Amer Standard	28	28
Ameritech	59	59
Amoco	70	70
Anheuser-Busch	69	69
Apple Computer	29	30
Archer Daniels	18	18
Armco	5	5
Armstrong Wrld	58	58
Asarco	29	29
Ashland Oil	36	36
Atl Richfield	113	113
Auto Data Pro	39	38
Avery Dennison	50	49
Avon Products	77	77
Baker Hughes	25	25
Baltim Gas & El	28	28
Banc One	35	36
BankAmerica	63	65
Bank of NY	49	49
Bankers Tr NY	61	62
Barnett Banks	56	57
Bausch & Lomb	38	38
Baxter Intl	44	44
Becton Dickinson	84	83
Bell Atlantic	67	67
Bell Industries	21	21
BellSouth	40	41
Black & Decker	31	31
Block (H&R)	35	36
Boeing	77	76
Boise Cascade	36	34
Bristol Myrs Sq	86	86
Browning Ferris	30	31
Brunswick	21	21
Burlington Nthn	81	80
CNA Financial	112	112
CPC Intl	71	72

	Jan 29 midday	Jan 26 close
Eastman Kodak	70	71
Eaton Corp	55	54
Emerson Elec	83	82
Engelhard Corp	22	21
Enron Corp	36	36
Entergy	29	27
Ethyl Corp	11	11
Exxon	79	79
FMC Corp	69	68
FPL Group	46	46
Federal Express	70	71
Fed Nat Mtge	31	32
First Interstate	147	147
First Union Rty	7	7
Fleet Finl Grp	39	39
Fluor Corp	66	66
Ford Motor	28	29
GTE Corp	45	45
Gannett	63	63
Gap Inc Del	43	43
Gen Dynamics	58	58
Gen Electric	74	75
Gen Mills	54	54
Gen Motors	51	51
Gen Reinsurance	146	145
Gen Signal	33	33
Genuine Parts	42	42
Georgia Pac	68	68
Gillette	52	53
Glaxo Wellc ADR	27	27
Goodrich (BF)	73	73
Goodyear Tire	46	45
Grace (WR)	60	59
Grt Atl Pac Tea	21	21
Great Wstn Fin	22	22
Halliburton	49	49
Harcourt General	38	38
Heinz (HJ)	34	34
Hercules	59	59
Hershey Foods	69	60
Hewlett Packard	83	83
Hilton Hotels	74	74
Home Depot	44	45
Homestake Mng	19	18
Honeywell	48	48
Household Intl	62	62
Houston Inds	24	24
Humana	27	27
ITT Corp	54	54
Illinois Tool	57	57
Illinova	30	29
INCO	33	33
Ingersoll Rand	38	38
Inland Steel	26	26
Intel Corp	54	55
IBM	104	104
Intl Flav & Fr	49	49
Intl Paper	39	39
James River Va	25	24
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	95	93
Kellogg	75	75

	Jan 29 midday	Jan 26 close
Oryx Energy Co	12	12
Owens Corning	43	43
PHH Corp	47	47
PPG Industries	46	46
PNC Bank	29	29
PP&L Res	25	25
Paccar Inc	44	45
Pacificorp	21	21
Pac Enterprises	27	27
Pac Gas & Elect	27	27
Pac Telesis	28	28
Pall Corp	26	26
Panhandle East	28	28
Parker Hannifin	32	32
Peco Energy	30	30
Penney (JC)	47	46
Pennzoil	40	40
Pepsico	59	59
Pfizer	66	65
Pharm & Upjhn	39	39
Phelps Dodge	60	59
Philip Morris	92	92
Phillips Pet	33	32
Pitney Bowes	45	45
Polaroid	45	45
PriceCostco	15	15
Procter & Gmbl	86	87
Providian	42	42
Pub Serv E & G	30	30
Quaker Oats	33	33
Ralston Purina	62	61
Raychem Corp	65	65
Raytheon	47	47
Reebok Intl	26	26
Reynolds Metals	50	50
Rockwell Intl	59	58
Rohm & Haas	68	68
Royal Dutch	137	137
Rubbermaid	28	27
SBC Comms	56	56
Safeco Corp	35	35
St Paul's Cos	59	58
Salomon Inc	36	35
Sara Lee Corp	32	32
Seacorp	18	18
Schering Plough	54	54
Schlumberger	67	67
Seagram	36	36
Sears Roebuck	40	39
Shell Trans	78	77
Sherwin Wllms	41	41
Skyline Corp	20	20
Snap-On-Tools	45	45
Southern Co	25	25
Sprint Corp	42	42
Stanley Works	49	49
Sun Company	27	27
Sun Microsys	44	42
Suntrust	67	67
Supervalu	31	30
Sysco Corp	31	31

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Red tape can't tie Powe down

The Gas Consumers Council, which yesterday reported the number of moans against British Gas has doubled in the past year, is in a quandary. Ian Powe, the council's director, has opened a "gifts register" in which everything given to any employee and valued at more than £25 will be logged. Trouble is, the first entry in its new register could be a British Gas corporate tie. Powe was given one recently by Roy Gardner, executive director for supply, retail and service at British Gas, after what Powe says was "a most useful bridge-building meeting".

The label proclaims: "Toye, Kenning & Spencer. By Appointment to HM The Queen. Suppliers of gold and silver laces, insignia and embroidery." Powe thinks the tie rather handsome, and hopes it does not offend the £25 rule. He wants to wear it, but with a clear conscience. "I was a captain in the Royal Navy before joining the council in 1986, so I am accustomed to wearing gold braid round the sleeves of my uniform," he notes.

Anderson country

POOR old British Gas. A woman phoned the Scottish regional office to say "I've heard all about your troubles on *Baywatch* . . .". Perhaps she meant *Watchdog* . . . or could it have been *Crimewatch*?

BUSINESS is not too good in New York. A sign in a Manhattan jeweller's shop window reads: "Business-Stinks Sale".

"Let's go down to Harry Ramsden's"

Hello boys

TWO embarrassed City financiers can expect their telephones to ring non-stop when the latest edition of *Company* magazine hits the streets. The corporate angels have not done anything wrong. But they have been named, with their picture, in a list of Britain's 50 most eligible batchelors, along with a string of adjectives that include rich, handsome, fun and funky.

The Hon Henry Stewart, 23, corporate finance analyst at merchant bank Schroders, and Mark Frankle, 25, a foreign exchange dealer at a French bank, sense that mystery women and/or colleagues put their names forward. Also listed is Joel Cadbury — yes, it's his name on the chocolate bars. Frankel hopes the publicity will enliven dreary foreign exchange markets. As for Stewart, well, he had hoped to have left these shores quietly before *Company* hit the streets. "I'm off to New York on secondment shortly," the "blond, blue-eyed hunk with all the right credentials" blushed.

Red hot

DENISE DOWEN, environmental lawyer with Dickinson Dees in Newcastle, is obviously a gel with spirit. Asked by *The Lawyer* magazine what her most often-worn piece of clothing was she replied "A Princess Di face mask". And her most embarrassing professional moment? "Setting fire to a slide projector at a client seminar."

COLIN CAMPBELL

Would real earnings growth spell economic suicide?

Philip Bassett on the part 'new pay' has to play in negotiations for better salaries

Pay settlements are running ahead of inflation, according to an independent analysis yesterday of current wage deals. Yet Adair Turner, leader of the Confederation of British Industry, provoked an outcry when he suggested that Britain's traditional pay and price spiral is now so distant as to make the prospect of non-inflationary real wages growth not just likely, but desirable.

What is going on in pay? For the past two or three years while inflation, although broadly both low and stable, has bounced around a little, earnings growth has not taken off as unemployment has fallen — as our graphic shows.

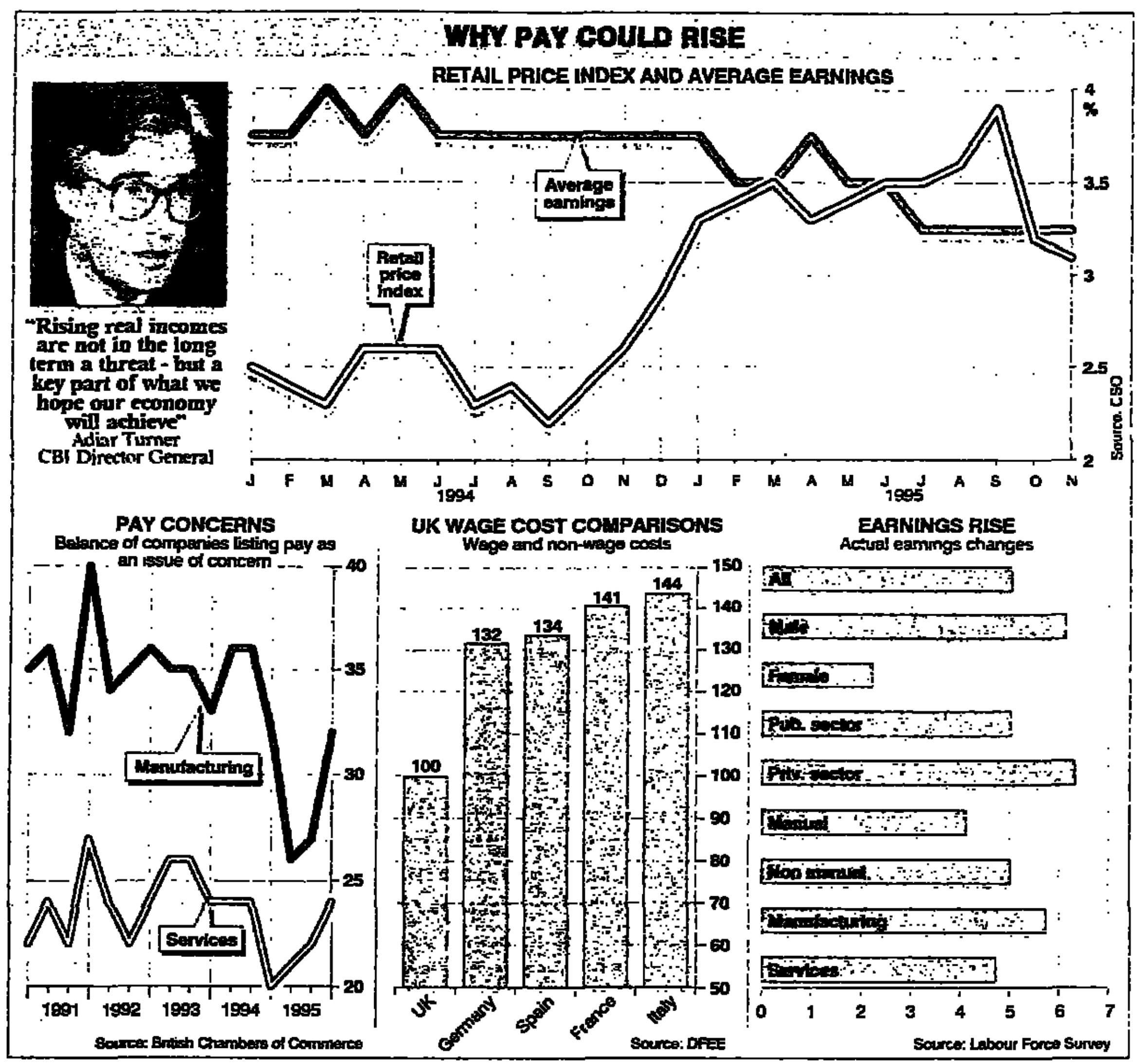
This apparent reversal of trends over the last 30 years prompted the CBI's Director-General to suggest that real earnings would have to, and should, rise if economic growth is to be sustained over the longer term — prompting over-excited media headlines about "bosses urge big pay rises". Yet at the same time, studies such as that from the independent Incomes Data Services yesterday suggest that pay settlements are not only running ahead of inflation, but are at a higher level than they were a year ago.

Though Mr Turner's analysis unnerved some ministers and traditional business leaders, most remain sanguine about pay, based largely on the flatness of the monthly average earnings figures, although there is some argument among statisticians about how much pay volatility the Government's official underlying earnings figures smooth out.

Separate earnings figures from the Government's quarterly Labour Force Survey look less sanguine, with actual earnings levels for all employees up a good deal more than the month index suggests.

But ministers and business leaders remain more worried about comparative competitiveness problems rather than earnings levels themselves. For instance, Vauxhall, which has just settled a relatively serious pay dispute with its manual workers over the company's two-year inflation-linked pay offer, cites such concerns about misinterpretations which might be made of Mr Turner's views by shop-floor bargainers.

Aware of the UK's rising comparative unit labour costs, and indeed the first downturn this month in productivity for a decade, ministers have more than an eye on the political opportunity of attacking Labour's commitments on the social chapter and the minimum wage. Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, emphasises Britain's low non-wage costs in comparison with its European competitors. Eric Forth, the Education Minister, may well be pressed on pay in the light of Mr Turner's remarks by MPs today when he gives evidence to the last public sitting of the all-party Commons Employment Select Committee after the Government's scrapping last year of the Department of Employment.



"Rising real incomes are not in the long term a threat - but a key part of what we hope our economy will achieve"
Adiar Turner
CBI Director General

Adair Turner, CBI Director-General, provoked outcry with his preference for non-inflationary pay rises

Vauxhall's settlement of its dispute does not mean, though, that there are no clouds on the pay horizon. Ford is facing an industrial action ballot among its manual workers over its two-year pay offer, though Vauxhall's deal may reduce sharply the readiness of Ford employees to increase their sporadic bouts of action.

Local government leaders are warning of an unusually tough pay round for council employees this year, as some of the large unions seek to establish a beach-head for their pre-election industrial target of a £4 minimum wage, though ministers believe likely rises will not be unacceptably high.

But pay specialists are increasingly suspicious about the attention given to so-called pacesetter companies such as Ford, arguing that if such an idea has any relevance at all now in an era of fragmented and decentralised pay bargaining, then the much larger employee numbers in service sector companies, such as BT or Tesco, might well be more influential. Indeed, at the Institute of Personnel and Development conference addressed last week by Mr Turner, there was much talk of so-called "new pay".

New pay, as personnel vanguardists see it, is not about old forms of pay bargaining, but about the new kinds of pay flexibilities — profit-related pay, performance-related pay, team-based pay, and so on — the impact of which on Britain's labour market were, for Mr Turner, central to why the idea of real earnings growth in the future would not be "economic suicide" and would be unlikely to lead to any return of the pay-price spiral.

New research by the CBI with Hay management consultants among a sample of 3,000 organisations shows widespread actual, or planned, adoption of new pay flexibilities, with up to 56 per cent of companies citing increasing pay and performance links as a key factor driving pay changes for executives and senior managers over both the past two and the next two years, for instance — though tighter cost control is still seen as a more important factor for manual employees' pay.

Nevertheless, pay remains a company concern, with evidence from the British Chambers of Commerce industrial surveys suggesting it is seen increasingly as a worry by both manufacturing and service firms, while for Eddie George, Bank of England Governor, it remains a threat to inflation and the reason for the higher interest rates weapon. If increased pay flexibilities give business leaders greater cause to be optimistic about pay in the economy, they can lead to some remarkably high-looking deals.

Sun Life of Canada has just awarded merit rises averaging 6 per cent to office staff. Performance-related pay increases averaging 4.7 per cent came in this month for 7,500 Thomas Cook employees. Britannia Life staff's merit awards ranged up to 9.25 per cent and averaged 4 per cent. Even some traditional, non-"new"pay rises have been for increases higher than ministers claim is common. Nissan's January rise was for 4 per cent in the second half of a two-stage deal, as was Nestlé's agreement for its craft workers. British Steel agreed increases for its 13,700 employees totalling 4.5 per cent.

Business leaders argue that there is little read-across from such rises to pay in the economy generally, insisting that as long as companies' individual productivity and profitability continue to grow, then they are correct to pay such increases. Even so, the scale of such rises will not sit easily with the idea that pay, prices and growth are in such a state of equilibrium, floating on a cushion of increased pay and labour market flexibilities, that they preface an eventual return to growth in real wages.

ANATOLE KALETSKY

Seismic shift over growth

Twelve days ago I thought I was being controversial when I wrote that austerity was going out of fashion. In predicting that "1996 will be the year when people all over the world decide they have had enough of deflationary claptrap" I was trying to stick my neck out.

But now my attempted flight of fancy has turned into the blandest conventional wisdom. In the past week almost everyone who matters in the global economy — from Helmut Kohl, Jacques Chirac and Bill Clinton down to Adair Turner, the Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry — has jumped on to the anti-austerity, pro-growth bandwagon.

When I heard Britain's main industrialists' organisation calling for higher wages I thought there must be some mistake. But when this prescription was broadly endorsed by other captains of industry and employers' organisations there could be no doubt: a seismic shift in opinion was really under way.

Outside Britain, there have been far more astonishing tergiversations. In America, politicians no longer seem to take seriously the need for a balanced budget. In Europe, the hairshirt of Maastricht is being discarded like an uncomfortable frock that has gone out of style.

To detail the gyrations in the French position is tedious and pointless. French politicians are changing their minds on EMU by the hour; the only thing that matters is whether the number of U-turns since President Chirac's last apparently authoritiative pronouncement has been even or odd.

In France, EMU causes an overvalued currency and a perpetual recession. But in Germany its effect is the mirror image of that in France — EMU is a source of welcome *inflation* or, to put it more politely, a salvation from the overvalued mark. So the Germans are suddenly *keener* on EMU.

Last week saw several Bundesbank directors arguing that Germany had to stick to the Maastricht timetable to avoid a deflationary flight of money *into* the mark. Klaus Kinkel, the Foreign Minister, was even more explicit: Germany must stick to the EMU timetable to avoid "a strong appreciation of the mark (that would) hurt exports and jobs". Herr Kohl has begun to hint strongly at a retreat from the Maastricht fiscal targets, which Germans politicians had sworn unanimously to defend to the last drop of French and Belgian blood.

The clearest message of all was delivered by Jean-Luc Dehaene, the plain-speaking Belgian Prime Minister. M Dahaene's statement that "competitive disinflation may become as disruptive as a policy of competitve devaluation" was the monetary equivalent of Moses smashing the tablets he brought down from Mt Sinai.

The European elite have finally been converted to a policy preached in these columns: in a world where the main economic problem is not inflation but unemployment, a weak currency is a positive virtue, while a strong currency is an economic evil, which governments must do their utmost to fight.

Devaluation is not, of course, a state of economic bliss that all countries can attain simultaneously. If one currency is falling, another must, by definition, be rising. However, merely aspiring to achieve a weak currency involves a loosening of monetary policy, which imparts a benign expansionary effect not only to the country in question, but to the world economy.

In the end, of course, the expansionary forces may produce another upsurge in world inflation. This is why the gold price has suddenly begun to perk up. But to move straight from worrying about a worldwide slump to fretting about a new inflationary crisis is irrational, even by the standards of financial markets and central bankers. The goldbugs' excitement seems premature. The time to buy gold — and to start worrying about global inflation — may be approaching, but it has not arrived yet.

Jon Ashworth on the ultimate client entertainment

Thrills and perhaps spills for business high-flyers

Tired of the same old client entertainment? Worried about losing those key accounts? Well, how about this . . . well-heeled stockbrokers can let their favoured contacts loose at the controls of a British Airways Concorde, in what must amount to the ultimate in British corporate hospitality.

Novice pilots can swoop low level over Manhattan or even attempt to steer Concorde between the twin towers of the World Trade Centre in a manoeuvre that would have Wall Street bankers diving for cover. Humbler types can take a Boeing 747 for a spin to Hong Kong and back, then take to the sky in a vintage Tiger Moth biplane. The possibilities are endless.

Manhattan, of course, will never really be at risk from over-excited fund managers or marketing men. The action takes place in flight simulators spread around the UK — the fruits of a company called Simulation, based in Clacton, Essex, which combines fly-boy thrills with the more mundane pleasures of fine food and wine. Business is booming, and there is something for everyone.

The ultimate package takes in the BA Concorde simulator, which has never before been available for corporate entertainment. Parties of up to six can dine at Thornbury Castle before taking off by helicopter for the BA facility at Filton, Bristol. Budding pilots can pass under the Verrazano Narrows Bridge and hurtle past the Statue of Liberty before attempting touch-down at JFK International.

Those who really want to splash out can start with Concorde, then board a genuine Cessna Citation executive jet for a flight to Deauville in France. They return after a splendid lunch — costing about £3,000 to £4,000 for a six-strong group. The Concorde simulator alone costs £1,639 plus VAT for six people.

Favoured contacts can be given the chance to take the controls of flight simulators

Angus Grahame, director of Simulation, says big corporations consider the money well spent. He said: "They say 'this client is worth to me so many hundred thousand pounds a year'. To do something this special is well worth it."

A popular package offers up to 30 minutes at the controls of a jumbo jet, before taking to the air for real in a Tiger Moth. The "Big Jets and Biplanes" programme is suitable for up to 32 guests at a time and is held around Gatwick.

The Tiger Moth flights take place from Redhill Aerodrome, which has a clubhouse. *Biggles* fans can pose in goggles and flying jacket for sepia photographs. The programme typically costs £299 plus VAT per head.

Straightforward simulator packages, starting at £127 plus VAT per head for up to eight guests, are available at Heathrow, Luton, East Midlands, Manchester and Prestwick. A training session in a real Cessna or similar fixed-wing aircraft can be arranged. Demand is more restricted since these venues have only one available simulator and guests have to fit in with the demands of professional pilots.

Mr Grahame admits to some close calls, but says crashing is actively discouraged. "It can throw the machines off their joists."

One of the most challenging experiences is the Chinook helicopter simulator at Farnborough. An hour costs £329 plus VAT per head. Guests get to attempt to land on oil rigs.

Simulation formerly offered flips on RAF trainers and hopes to break back into the military aviation market. War-crazed enthusiasts could soon be dodging tracers on a low-level bombing raid over Baghdad.

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UK Growth Inc	284.70	302.90	+ 0.70	2.72
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Higher Inc Inc	434.60	462.40	+ 0.40	4.08
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	206.30	220.00	...	5.47
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	96.69	101.40	...	5.47
Nth America	342.70	364.60	...	...
Europe	328.50	349.50	...	0.66
Brit Excell	85.16	90.60	+ 0.15	2.06
Brit Fxdvalu Acc	113.80	121.10	+ 0.07	4.86
Brit Fxdvalu Inc	79.60	84.69	...	4.86
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Balanced Acc	61.84	65.89	...	2.72
Balanced Inc	58.93	63.12	+ 0.07	2.72
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Pac Basin Acc	420.60	447.50	...	0.79

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Asian Pacific	347.40	371.60	- 1.10	0.11
Assets & Earnings	292.90	311.60	+ 0.30	2.74
Euro Capital Acc	168.40	177.80	+ 0.30	0.58
Extra Inc	44.49	47.33†	- 0.06	5.49
General	272.80	289.40	+ 0.30	2.68
Global Opps	63.35	67.39	+ 0.25	0.45
Japan	129.20	138.32	+ 0.60	...
Managed Inc	48.05	51.12†	+ 0.01	4.55
Mastertrust	161.40	172.69	+ 0.20	1.41
US Emerging Cos	180.00	192.49	+ 1.10	...
Ethical	77.40	82.34	- 0.02	2.47
International	134.90	143.59	+ 0.40	0.71
Dividend & Growth	66.43	70.67†	+ 0.09	4.34
Global Grth & Inc	71.50	76.37	- 0.04	2.46

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Small Cos	2026.00	2108.60		...

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 580

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Amer Inc & Growth	57.44	59.65	+ 0.52	0.51
Cash	50.43	50.43†	+ 0.02	5.80
Emerging Mkts	72.76	77.11	+ 0.18	0.04
European	132.80	138.18	+ 0.60	...
Exempt	1020.60	1091.50†	+ 1.60	1.71
Extra Income #	48.51	51.97†	+ 0.24	6.54
Far East Emg Eco	131.40	139.60	+ 0.29	0.45
Fixed Interest #	24.14	25.11	- 0.01	8.36
Fund Inv Tst	162.10	170.20†	- 0.20	0.14
Japan	191.70	199.49	+ 0.60	...
Latin American	55.34	57.98	+ 0.46	0.64
Pacific	87.30	91.66	+ 0.08	0.29
Property Share	63.33	66.49†	- 0.16	2.64
UK Emerging Cos	69.23	74.14†	- 0.05	1.67
UK Growth	50.13	53.02	+ 0.19	2.21
Abtr World Port #	60.66	62.14	+ 0.30	2.00
Ethical	75.65	78.89†	+ 0.05	2.23
Abtrust Gilt Inc #	51.17	51.17†	- 0.05	7.34

For AEGON see Mathesons

AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0171 258 5668

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Resdtl Property	97.85	105.00	..	5.09

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
01452 305 958

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Amity Income	84.77	89.94	- 0.16	2.25
Income Builder Inc	77.94	82.92†	+ 0.19	2.76

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	265.00	283.20	+ 0.50	2.75

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0708

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Cazenove Portfolio	97.34	103.60†	+ 0.16	2.49
American Portfolio	116.44	123.64	+ 0.97	0.02
European Portfolio	116.14	123.52	- 0.09	0.47
High Income	52.56	55.69	- 0.06	7.59
Japanese Portfolio	70.74	75.20†	- 0.11	...
Pacific Portfolio	160.96	173.10	- 0.13	1.38
UK Inc & Growth	91.60	98.50	+ 0.31	2.66
Utility & Bond	57.52	58.19	- 0.08	6.55

CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Inv Fund	741.33	752.53	..	4.28
Fxd Int Sec	159.78	160.48	.	8.92

COIF CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Investment Inc	735.94	745.98	...	4.34
Investment Acc	232.81	233.81	...	...
Fixed Int Inc	129.29	129.81	...	8.66
Fixed Int Acc	219.59	220.97	...	..

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5966

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Beckman Intl	97.11	102.49	.	2.98
Beck Bio-Tech	50.31	54.24†	...	..
Acorn Ethical Tst	171.14	179.71†	...	0.62
City Fin Assets	77.72	81.61	- 0.06	2.05
City Fin America	112.27	117.89	...	..
City Fin Intl	91.60	96.40	...	0.83
City Fin Japan	152.71	159.36†	...	...
Friars Hse Cap	305.67	330.67†	+ 3.60	2.39
Friars Hse Inc	200.78	213.57	+ 0.74	4.16
Buckley Yield Gth	148.66	148.10	...	.
Falcon Cap Gth	149.20	156.00	...	...
Falconm Sel	159.30	167.68	...	...
J Bld Inc/Gth Inc	56.82	59.67†	.	1.57

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Emerging Markets	59.25	62.87	- 0.05	...

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0800 373 393

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Grth	75.51	80.33	+ 0.72	...
Dragon Growth	75.16	80.38	- 0.29	0.54
Equity High Inc	89.89	95.63	+ 0.03	4.02
-do- Accum	125.65	133.67	+ 0.03	4.02
Extra Income Inc	26.73	28.15†	- 0.07	7.13
Extra Income Acc	28.15	29.84	- 0.06	7.13
European Grth	59.72	63.36	+ 0.18	1.69
Evergreen	30.05	32.13	+ 0.13	...
General Equity	97.35	103.30	+ 0.24	2.65
Japan Growth	53.28	56.66	+ 0.08	...
Pelican Grth	58.68	62.40	+ 0.17	2.57
Prof Sm Cos Inc	34.64	36.65	- 0.01	1.51
-do- Accum	36.46	38.61	- 0.01	1.51
Retirement Inc #	27.97	29.75	+ 0.05	5.56
Special Sits	44.25	47.07	.	2.84
UK & Overseas	57.13	60.62	+ 0.12	0.71

COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD
01634 890 000

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Capital	77.77	81.01	+ 0.25	1.86
Balanced	87.06	89.87	- 0.10	4.02

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD
0181 686 9818
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	178.81	190.22	+ 0.56	4.60
Fixed & Convertible	41.45	44.10†	- 0.08	6.68
Monthly Inc Plus	49.92	53.11	- 0.42	8.44
Preference Share	47.14	50.15†	- 0.17	7.58
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	133.92	142.47†	+ 0.19	5.70
Managed Fund	75.17	79.97	+ 0.11	2.94
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	45.07	47.95	+ 0.14	1.89
-do- Accum	52.46	55.81	+ 0.17	1.89
UK & General	93.32	99.69	+ 0.29	2.68
-do- Accum	115.92	123.32	+ 0.25	2.68
UK Growth	170.90	181.81	+ 0.69	2.22
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	205.27	218.37	+ 1.13	0.11
Far Eastern Grth	142.72	151.83	- 0.01	..
Global Bond	86.36	91.84	- 0.05	5.79
Japan Growth	119.79	127.44	+ 0.29	..
North Amer Grth	219.59	233.60	+ 1.71	...
Oriental Growth	88.02	93.64	- 0.43	0.08
Worldwide Growth	73.57	78.69	+ 0.44	0.10
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.69	92.69	+ 0.03	5.71
Homemaker Fund	90.42	95.19	+ 0.03	1.57
Quilter Fund	150.11	158.69	+ 0.48	1.91

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
Enq 0171 330 6600 Dealing 0345 773511

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Growth	72.81	77.57	- 0.01	...
-do- Accum	72.81	77.57	- 0.01	..
Amer Smllr Cos	619.50	652.60	- 4.00	...
-do- Accum	632.90	676.80	- 4.10	...
Capital Tst	351.60	374.00	+ 0.60	1.30
-do- Accum	510.60	543.20	+ 0.60	1.30
Cnvtl Smllr Cos	60.16	64.02	+ 0.02	0.82
-do- Accum	63.50	67.55	+ 0.02	0.82
Convertible	135.60	144.50†	+ 0.20	5.24
-do- Accum	289.40	308.60†	+ 0.40	5.24
Emerging Markets	69.43	74.18†	+ 0.14	...
-do- Accum	69.67	74.43†	+ 0.14	...
European	132.10	139.60	+ 0.30	0.19
-do- Accum	138.00	147.10	+ 0.40	0.19
Extra Income	367.80	391.20†	+ 0.10	3.63
-do- Accum	572.00	608.20†	+ 0.20	3.63
Financial	154.00	163.60	+ 0.50	0.51
-do- Accum	163.00	173.40	+ 0.50	0.51
Gilt Trust	65.35	67.38	- 0.11	6.00
-do- Accum	96.24	99.23	- 0.16	6.00
Health Fund Inc	260.60	278.40	+ 2.60	..
-do- Accum	260.60	278.40	+ 2.60	...
Income & Growth	217.20	231.10	+ 0.50	3.06
-do- Accum	339.60	361.30	+ 1.30	3.06
Intl Growth	414.90	442.40	+ 0.50	...
-do- Accum	460.70	491.20	+ 0.60	...
Japan & Gen	185.50	197.50	+ 1.00	...
-do- Accum	187.50	199.50	+ 1.00	...
Monthly Inc #	180.90	182.40†	...	3.64
Managed Port Inc	114.30	120.30	- 2.00	1.82
-do- Accum	122.80	129.30	- 2.00	1.82
Quarterly Income #	54.94	58.45	- 0.01	4.50
-do- Accum #	60.91	64.80	- 0.04	4.50
Recovery	355.60	369.20†	+ 0.50	0.70
-do- Accum	419.70	446.90†	+ 0.70	0.70
UK Growth	81.26	85.17	+ 0.12	2.27
-do- Accum	64.92	69.06	+ 0.12	2.27

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS
Dealing 01705 881339 Enq 01705 881340

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FP American	56.90	60.53	+ 0.62	0.57
FP Am Smllr Cos	184.10	196.60	+ 0.60	...
FP Asian Growth	298.00	319.50†	- 1.30	...
FP Australian	394.00	422.70	+ 8.40	...
FP Equity Dist	426.70	453.90	+ 6.10	2.45
-do- Accum	925.30	984.30	+ 9.20	2.45
FP Euro Gth	254.70	270.90	- 0.50	0.11
-do- Accum	276.80	294.40	- 0.50	0.11
FP Intl Bond	62.79	66.44	- 0.05	4.69
FP Intl Gth Dist	37.35	39.86	+ 0.11	0.43
-do- Accum	54.52	58.16	+ 0.14	0.43
FP Pac Basin Acc	229.60	244.30	- 0.20	...
FP Income #	58.94	62.73†	- 0.16	4.96
-do- Accum #	192.50	205.30	- 0.50	4.96
FP Jap Smllr Cos	313.90	334.60	+ 2.20	..
FP Monthly Dist #	74.49	79.49†	- 0.18	5.13
FP Stlg Deposit	100.50	100.50†	+ 0.10	5.75
FP Tokyo	85.64	90.70	+ 0.19	..
FP UK Focus	40.20	43.22	+ 0.04	2.52
FP UK Growth	188.10	200.60†	+ 0.10	2.80
-do- Accum	373.30	398.10	+ 0.10	2.80
Stewardship Dist	384.60	409.10	+ 0.60	1.84
-do- Accum	478.70	509.20	+ 0.70	1.84
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	77.73	82.69	+ 0.07	4.89
-do- Accum #	103.50	110.10	+ 0.10	4.89
N Am Stwdp Dist	119.00	126.60	+ 1.40	0.94
-do- Accum	127.50	135.60	+ 1.50	0.94
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Grwth Acc	122.20	130.00	- 0.20	1.06
Opn Cap Gth Acc	126.30	134.30	...	0.06
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	116.70	124.10	- 0.30	2.40
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	120.70	128.40	- 0.30	2.40
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	119.50	127.10	- 0.50	3.34
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	124.10	132.00	- 0.60	3.34

GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0345 581 166/7

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
GANDA	270.20	285.70	+ 0.20	2.18
Cash	49.79	50.50	+ 0.01	5.27
Growth Portfolio	86.38	91.57	+ 0.04	0.90
Income Portfolio	70.67	74.10	+ 0.02	4.15

GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD
0171 236 6441

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Special Sits	225.30	241.06	+ 0.30	1.11
Dividend	95.69	101.60†	+ 0.40	5.22
Intl Gth & Inc	241.20	258.60†	+ 0.80	3.04
UK & Gen	49.29	52.72	+ 0.14	1.94
Fund of Funds	72.53	77.57	+ 0.05	

GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 0431

JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 261010

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Sector Value Inc	101.10	106.60	...	4.00
Sector Value Grth	101.50	107.00	+ 0.30	2.24
Hy 5 Europe	97.97	102.70	+ 0.76	2.43

JUPITER UT MGRS LTD
0171 581 3020

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
World Health	217.50	231.90	+ 3.80	...
Income #	194.08	208.45†	+ 1.02	4.14
UK Growth	78.24	81.11†	+ 0.47	0.43
International	84.46	89.65†	- 0.22	0.07
Ecology	95.78	102.95	+ 1.10	1.04
European	151.65	161.54	- 0.17	...
Far Eastern	314.60	330.10	- 1.20	...

NW JOINT INVESTORS LTD
01620 825867

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Fd #	1401.90	1485.10	..	2.99
Income #	1040.50	1059.10†	..	4.00

MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 222 4242

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Maldon General	153.70	163.00	..	3.71

For Manulife see Canada Life

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MOPS

KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS
Dealing: 0171 956 7354

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	101.60	105.10†	- 0.40	7.32
Gilt Yield	120.40	127.00†	- 0.10	6.69
Global Income	236.40	251.50	+ 3.60	3.44
High Yield	147.90	157.30†	+ 0.20	5.70
-do- Accum	470.90	500.50†	+ 0.70	5.70
Smllr Cos Div	57.78	61.46	+ 0.02	2.79
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	138.20	147.00†	+ 4.30	...
Asian Growth	363.90	387.10	+ 2.10	0.21
-do- Accum	427.70	455.00	+ 2.60	0.21

MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD
01244 680 068

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
M & S Inv Pfolio	170.80	179.80†	+ 0.80	2.10
-do- Accum	200.40	211.00†	+ 0.70	2.10
UK Sel Pfolio	148.00	158.00†	+ 0.60	2.50
-do- Accum	176.90	186.10†	+ 0.70	2.50

MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD
01204 304 842

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Managed Tst	76.62	81.51	..	3.46

MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0131 479 4848

Equities static as gilts fall

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1995/6 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
506	478½	Allied Domecq	520	+ 2	5.6	15.2
541	390	Bulmer (HP)†	540	+ 16	2.8	16.9
148	98	Burn Stewart	124	...	5.0	26.7
497	352	Grand Met†	480	+ 2	4.1	15.8
536	404	Guinness	498	+ 1	3.8	14.5
445	315	Highland Dist	322	+ 1	3.1	14.8
217	157	Macallan-Glen	180	+ 1	1.0	37.5
710	600	Macdn Mrtn 'A'	630	- 5	2.2	17.8
694	532	Matthew Clark†	657	- 2	4.2	..
148	81	Merrydown W	107	..	2.3	..
2812½	1287½	SA Breweries	2537½	...	1.4	33.9

BANKS

1995/6 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3090¾	2137¼	ABN-AMRO	2946¾	- 40¾	4.3	11.0
660	413	Abbey Nat	614	- 16	3.9	12.3
383	250	Allied Irish	379	...	3.8	11.0
336	196	Aus New Z	335	+ 11	4.6	..
4425	2531¼	Bank America	4226	+ 12½	..	..
316	191¼	Bank Scotland	312	+ ¼	2.5	13.8
812½	557½	Barclays	788	+ 5½	3.6	10.8
488	288	Bk of Ireland	483	+ 1	3.5	9.7
525	418	Cater Allen	476	+ 2	7.9	7.9
4718¾	2450	Citicorp	4662½	- 18¾	..	..
348	218½	Close Bros	348	+ 18	3.1	15.4
£162¼	£129½	Commerzbk	£153½	+206¼	3.5	...
1375	939¾	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1234¾	- 9¼	0.4	...
3281¼	2775	Deutsche Bk	3281¼	+100	2.2	...
881¼	568¾	Espirito Santo	712½	- 6½	5.1	9.3
1811	1138¾	Fuji Bank Y	1458¾	- 18¾	0.4	..
490	395	Gerrard Nat	408	- 1	6.0	15.1
263	189	Hambros	199	+ 1	4.7	...
1105	580	HSBC	1080	- 6½	3.2	14.2
1085	578	HSBC HK	1087	- 8	3.3	13.9
421	225	Irish Perm	421	..	2.9	8.7
483	353	Joseph (L)	453	...	5.2	10.6
152	85	King Shaxson	146	..	7.7	11.3
350	306	Lloyds TSB	335	- 6½	..	..
627	479	Nat Aust Bk	627	+ 10	6.5	8.6
697	454	Nat West	666	+ 2	4.3	10.3
67	44	Rea Brothers	63	- 2	2.8	25.2
638¾	373½	Ryl Bk Scot†	587	- 4	3.4	13.9
1478	906¾	Schroders	1290	- 5	1.4	18.4
1180	823¼	Schroders N/V	1023	- 5	1.7	14.6
111	81	Singer & Fried	104	+ ½	4.4	10.6
662½	246	Stand Chart	638	- 2	1.8	16.0
127	70	Union	88	..	3.8	...
£151¾	8043¾	Wells Fargo	£150¼	- 25	2.0	...
303	211	Westpac	302¼	- ¼	4.5	...
295	200	Wintrust	270	...	5.5	15.2

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1995/6 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
60	25	Abda Stk HO	42	...	...	...
287	143	Ascot Hldgs	287	+ 8	...	0.9
742	487	Bass†	729	+ 3	3.9	16.8
487	239	Boddington	481	..	2.4	24.7
76	42	Brit for the Bar	68	- 1	3.0	17.8
192	137	Burtonwood Brw†	170	- 1	4.8	18.4
97	70½	City Centre Rest	96	...	2.6	18.5
494	305	Compass Gp	478	...	2.9	20.6
43	34	Dalkeith Inns	39	...	..	..
206	137	Eldridge P 'A'©†	206	...	2.8	..
433	335	Fuller Smi 'A'©	415	...	2.6	18.4
614	492	Greenalls Gp†	596	+ 3½	3.0	18.2
856	468	Greene King†	611	...	2.9	15.0
242	108	Groupe Chez Ger	238	...	1.3	26.9
357	240	Hardy Hanson†	317	+ 1½	4.0	11.8
160	160	[illegible]	155	...	4.5	10.9
3425	3048	Holt J	3182	...	2.2	16.6
347	219	Mansfield	324	..	2.1	14.3
326	266	Marston Thomp	326	+ 1	2.8	15.4
608	387½	Morland†	608	..	2.4	17.9
152½	92½	My Kinda Town	151	...	2.9	13.0
8¼	6	Paramount†	6	...	4.8	9.6
142½	70	Pelican Gp	141	- 1	1.5	23.7
262	121	PizzaExpress	258	- 4	1.1	30.6
318	217	Ramsdens (R)	311	+ 35	1.8	36.5
738	307	Regent Inns	737	...	1.2	29.0
649	482	Scot & Newt	617	...	3.8	16.8
240	173	Tom Cobleigh	240	+ 1	1.4	39.0
309	211	Vaux Group†	296	+ 1	4.3	15.3
752	449	Wetherspoon JD	737	- 1	1.4	29.9
702	521	Whitbread	693	+ 1½	3.7	17.0
597	483	Wolverhampton D†	591	+ 2	3.2	14.4
310	186	Yates Bros†	307	...	1.3	27.3
475	425	Young 'A'	431	..	4.4	17.5

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

BUILDING MATERIALS

CHEMICALS

DISTRIBUTORS

1995/6 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
39	31	[illegible]	36	- 1	...	
24½	15½	Bearing Power†	18	..	9.8	11.4
28	18	Boyd 'A'†	26	...	3.5	8.6
483	345	Bowater	440	+ 1	3.8	17.3
21	10½	Bridgend Gp	20	..	1.2	...
96	78	Brit Fittings	84	..	4.8	12.7
270	215	Caffyns	245	..	5.9	18.9
14	9	[illegible]	12	- ¼	2.9	8.8
88	54	Central Mtr	75	..	0.8	..
94	70	Charles Sidney	82	..	5.6	12.9
61	36	Cook (DC)	58	+ ½	3.7	8.6
335	220	Cowie	325	- 6	3.7	14.0
155	125	Dag Motors	128	...	7.1	18.4
596	505	Dawsons EX©†	548	...	2.3	12.4
581	375½	Diploma	416	+ 7	4.4	13.5
370	236	Electrocomponents	347	- 3	2.2	23.5
314	153	Eurodis Elec	305	+ 5	1.7	21.1
225	64	Eurodollar†	104	..	9.4	6.3
120	87	European Mtr	103	..	6.3	8.8
440	280	Evans Halshaw	330	...	5.8	10.2
732	512	Farnell Elect	630	+ 18	1.9	18.3
72	48	Fife Indmar	68	...	6.2	10.8
24½	15	Gardiner	18¾	...	5.6	6.8
37	18	[illegible]	36½	+ ½	1.9	..
108	61	Gowrings	88	...	3.2	14.6
226	148	Hants (Philip)	226	...	4.1	14.4
233	142	[illegible]	215	..	2.4	18.8
573	298	[illegible]	572	...	2.2	21.3
137	81	Holdens Tech©	133	...	5.6	25.3
163	86	ISA Intl	157	...	1.3	17.2
430	200	Inchcape	268	+ 4	7.0	24.3
68	53	Jacks (Wm)	58	...	1.8	11.1
197	142	Kwik-Fit	183	+ 6	3.1	15.6
358¼	284¼	Lex Service	326	- 1	6.5	17.4
195	139	Lookers	144	...	7.1	..
32	9	[illegible]	11	...	5.5	14.8
8¾	5	[illegible]	8½	- ¼	0.7	18.5
71	38	[illegible]	45	...	..	8.3
534	338	[illegible]	482	...	2.8	15.7
288	78	[illegible]	246	...	0.9	10.7
181	135	PCT©	181	+ 22	6.8	11.6
283	225	Pendragon	277	...	3.8	14.5
188	123	Perry Gp	148	...	6.5	11.2
145	126	Quicks Group	143	...	5.0	12.2
198	160	REA	188	+ 1	2.7	22.4
3½	2½	Reece	2½	..	..	..
73	48	[illegible]	64	- 2	2.9	11.0
6½	2½	Ross Gp	2¾	..	..	..
69½	37½	SEP Intl	53¼	- ¾	3.8	..
17½	8½	[illegible]	14	...	..	8.0
271	226	Time Products	264	...	4.4	15.4
59¾	28	Torex Hire	31	..	5.2	13.2
275	151	Vardy (Reg)	273	...	2.8	15.1
333	249	Wholesale Ftgs	332	...	4.4	20.8
80	48	[illegible]	48	- ¼	2.0	11.8
90	58½	[illegible]	87	+ 4	1.8	..
116	66	Young (H)	115	.	4.2	13.4

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1995/6 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
2	0½	Anglo Utd	0¾	...	...	...
353	285	Antofagasta	345	...	1.7	16.1
941	728¼	[illegible]	920	+ 17	2.6	21.0
348	291	BTR	325	- 4	5.3	14.1
582	405	[illegible]	570	- 1	5.0	12.9
270½	144	Berisford Intl	191	- 1	2.0	18.6
131	71	Bibby (J)†	118	...	6.2	9.3
57½	40½	Brierley Inv	57½	+ ¼	7.7	3.1
940	743	Charter	845	...	3.7	13.7
314	185	Cookson	287	+ ½	3.2	18.2
161	135	[illegible]	146	..	7.5	9.2
157	119½	Fenner	141	...	3.2	13.8
153	100	Grampian Hldg	122	- 3	6.0	13.8
243¼	180¾	Hanson	204½	+ 1¼	7.3	11.2
162½	135	[illegible]	149	..	7.6	15.8
432½	200¾	Hutch Whamp	422	- 6¼	1.9	22.0
584¾	341¾	Jardine Math	545½	- 15	3.0	10.6
37	25	Jourdan (T)	29½	..	6.1	6.9
210¼	134	[illegible]	210½	+ 4½	2.9	22.3
173	113	McLeod Russell†	165	...	4.8	14.9
601	414	Powell Duffryn	454	...	6.9	16.6
152	123	[illegible]	136	..	7.8	9.4
178	128	Sime Darby	164	+ 3	2.9	14.9
230	164	Staveley	200	...	5.3	13.7
207	148	[illegible]	163	...	7.4	10.9
301¾	227	TT Group	298½	- 1	2.4	16.8
294¼	214	Tomkins†	279½	+ ¼	4.8	15.4
76	18½	Trafalgar H	29½	..	..	..
295	255	[illegible]	295	..	7.7	..
400	315	Wardle Storeys	385	+ 5	5.8	20.5
300	236	Wassall	259	+ 1	2.2	14.7
200	162	Whitecroft	183	..	2.9	14.3
380	298½	Williams Hldg	337	- 3	5.1	15.7

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1995/6 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
175	116	Adwest	122	..	8.0	9.6
294	153	Airflow Streams	272	..	3.7	6.3
508	440	Avon Rubber†	500	..	4.4	12.2
72½	49½	BSG	69¼	..	6.3	13.5
340	285	[illegible]	295	..	2.6	18.4
28	17	Boustead	26	..	4.9	..
357	245	ERF†	247	...	2.3	14.6
503	370	First Tech†	458	+ 1½	2.0	18.4
830	543	GKN	806	+ 8	3.4	18.5
3412½	2343¾	General Mtr	3393¾	+ 49¼	2.3	..
1491¾	848	Honda Motor	1401¼	+ 7¼	0.6	..
448	304	Laird	394	..	3.7	15.0
440	345	[illegible]	425	..	0.3	..
212	183	Lucas	194	- 2	4.5	50.2
98½	53	Mayflower	94	...	2.2	24.5
200	150	[illegible]	163	...	3.5	13.4
197	119	T & N	162	- 3	4.6	..
378	324	Trinity Hldgs†	351	.	2.7	19.1

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MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

LONGS (over 15 years)

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Japan seeks support for £4bn home loans bailout

FROM PEREGRINE HODSON IN TOKYO

The Japanese Government h[illegible]ged Japan's taxpayers to [illegible]port its latest scheme to [illegible]eir money to liquidate [illegible]n *jusen* (housing loan) companies. The Chief Cabinet Secretary said the Government "felt a pain like drinking boiling water" over its decision to use public money.

Government and coalition parties have endorsed the plan by which losses on outstanding loans at the mortgage companies — many of which are virtually bankrupt — will be shared between the Government and the private sector. Combined with 685 billion yen (£4.24 billion) in public funds the Government intends to use to cover immediate losses, the final burden is likely to be at least Y10,000 for every person in Japan.

The ruling coalition has formally agreed to authorise Y1.2 trillion of public money to pay for the *jusen* disaster. But the final bill to Japan's taxpayers is likely to be even higher. The Government has promised to pay back half of whatever is not recovered by asset sales. So far Y1.2 trillion is irrecoverable, but almost daily more losses are discovered.

The Government's plan includes the creation of the Deposit Insurance Corporation and Japanese Resolution Trust Corporation — similar to the US Resolution Trust Corporation created by Congress to clean up the savings and loans mess in 1989.

The Y10 trillion of bad debts held by *jusen* housing loan companies account for about 17 per cent of Japan's bad debts and many are held by Japan's *yakuza* gangsters.

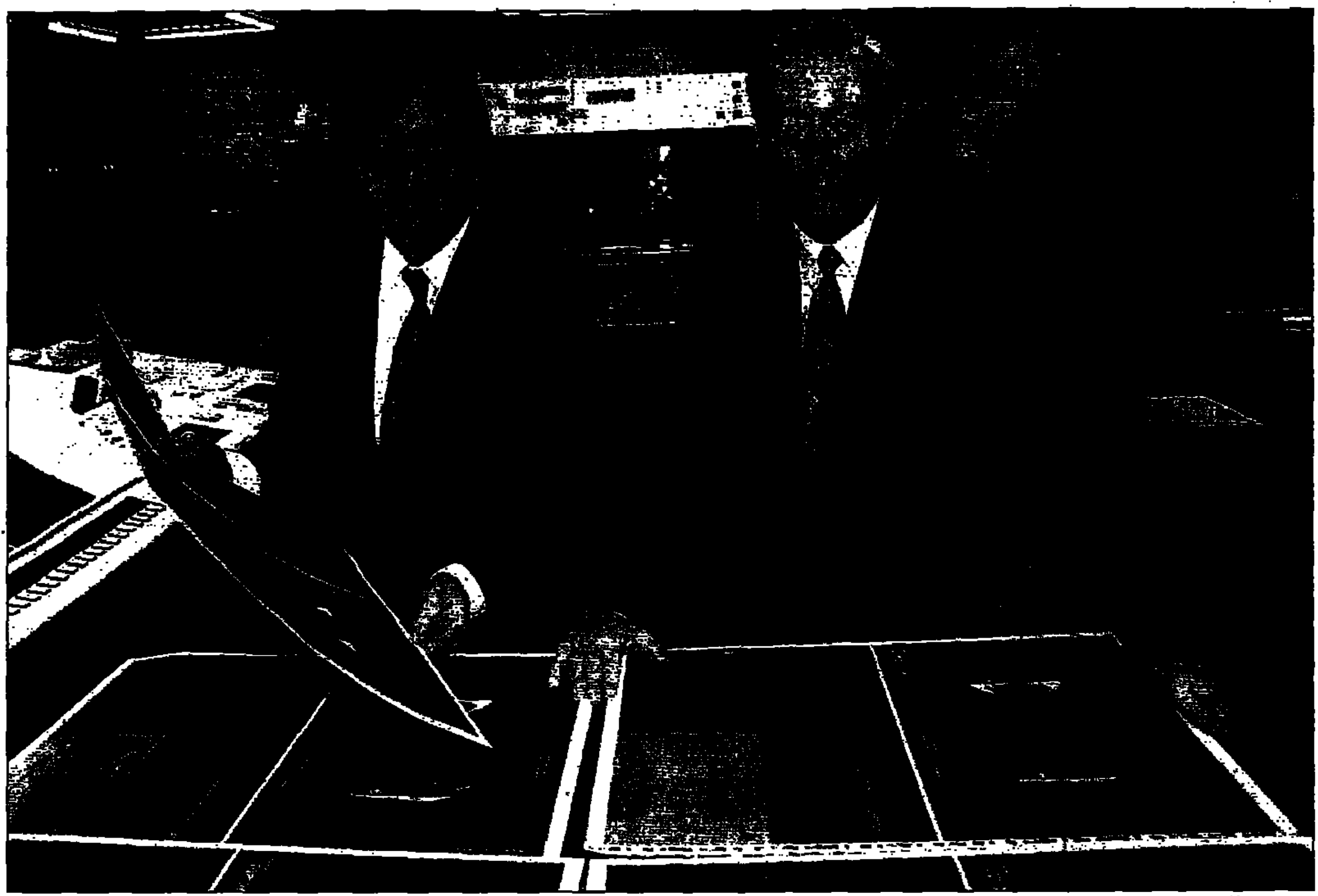
The Deposit Insurance Corporation is empowered to recover as much collateral as possible over the next ten years but as Hitoshi Yamada, head of the Japan Bar Association's sub-committee on organised crime points out, the Government's plan is "just a way to hand lots of money to gangsters". To add to the Government's woes, some economists estimate total problem loans may be Y80 trillion.

A Finance Ministry official has said the Y1.2 trillion of public money to pay for the *jusen* debacle will be merely the first of several contributions from the private sector. This has also been asked to help to solve the widening problem of bad loans, by buying bonds issued by troubled banks within their *keiretsu* corporate group. Banks are being helped to write off bad debts by using "hidden profits" on their property holdings which rely on official valuations 50 per cent above market prices.

Three years ago the Government and banks set up the Credit Purchasing Corporation in a similar exercise designed to buy and dispose of bad debt, but so far it has only sold 4 per cent of the Y10.3 trillion of "assets" which it obtained from troubled financial institutions. As with the *jusen* corporations, many of these are held by *yazuka*.

Ultimately, the Japanese Government faces an impossible dilemma. The Japanese equivalent of the US Resolution Trust Corporation must take losses by selling assets on current valuations which are approximately 70 per cent less than the values ascribed by banks at the peak of Japan's bubble economy. But it cannot dispose of the collateral at such sharp discounts, because it will have to make up any losses with money from the Deposit Insurance Corporation, whose collateral is priced at bubble valuations.

Fulmar flotation will give printer £40m valuation



FULMAR GROUP, the commercial printer which produces brochures, book jackets and annual reports for De Beers, Hodder Headline and other well-known names, is coming to the market in the spring, in a listing that values the company at £40 million (Jon Ashworth writes).

Mike Taylor, chief executive, said: "We see enormous opportunities both through acquisition and organic growth. This is a very exciting time." The flotation will bring about £10 million of new money into the company, which made an adjusted operating profit of £2.5 million (£1.9 million) in the year to December 31. Mr Taylor, who founded Fulmar in 1972 with a £4,000 loan, leads a 220-strong workforce based in Croydon, Surrey.

China's CD pirates about to be sunk

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

THE music industry is turning to technology in its bid to curb China's booming pirate compact disc business, using a method developed by PolyGram, the Dutch record company, to pinpoint the factory where an illegal CD has been made.

The International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI), which represents the major record labels, says the introduction of this system to China has led to panic among the owners of CD factories, particularly the increasing numbers producing pornographic CD-Roms and video CDs. Nic Garnett, director-general of the IFPI, said pornographers in China can be punished by death.

PolyGram's system works by running a computer analysis of the moulding pattern of the "pips" — the little bumps on a CD's surface which carry the music, or information. This profile can then be matched to the mould from which the CD came.

The breakthrough in China came when the Shanghai Aerospace Agency began to co-operate with the IFPI and adopted the process late last year. The IFPI and US authorities remain worried about the growth of piracy in China, which now has about 30 factories with a pressing capacity of 100 million CDs per year. With domestic demand no higher than 15 million CDs, huge numbers are sold to Hong Kong and Russia.

Chinese authorities have largely failed to keep promises made in February last year to introduce the IFPI's system of source identification codes (SIDs), used throughout the rest of the world to identify the factory where each CD was made. Promises of a six-month blitz on pirate factories were also largely unfulfilled. The IFPI blames central authorities' inability to enforce measures in the provinces.

The US Government, under pressure from its huge music industry, is thought to be close to reviving a threat made before last February's agreement to impose punitive sanctions worth $1 billion on Chinese exports if China does not take more effective action against its pirates.

Portfolio Fund gets new owner

Portfolio Fund Management, the fund manager formed in 1989 by Richard Timberlake, former managing director of Fidelity, has been bought by TransAtlantic Holdings in a deal worth £579,000.

David Fischel, managing director of TransAtlantic, becomes chairman of Portfolio. Tim Miller, former group marketing director of M&G, remains chief executive.

Dwyer deal

Dwyer Estates, in a joint venture with Charterhouse Property Investments, has exchanged contracts to buy a portfolio of 14 trading properties from Manulife, in a deal worth £14.55 million. Most of the properties are located in the south of England. Separately, Whitecroft, the building products and specialist materials group, has completed its withdrawal from commercial property development, with the sale of a property in Farnham, Surrey. The sale raised £1.4 million.

Sale in Spain

Ascot Holdings has agreed conditionally to the sale of its ten Spanish hotels and holiday clubs to a subsidiary of Riu, a leading Spanish hotel group, for £41.45 million in cash. The deal takes group borrowings to about £5 million, compared with £302.1 million as at September 1992, and is part of a continuing programme of asset sales.

ABB order

ABB, the international electrical engineering company, has clinched an order to build a 2,000-megawatt combined-cycle power plant in South Korea, at Poryong, about 180 kilometres southwest of Seoul. The deal is worth about $400 million to ABB.

VCI cheer

VCI, the independent video and audio publishing group, enjoyed a strong and successful Christmas trading period, according to newly released figures. Trading has improved across all sectors.

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LAW

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The result of the Maxwell brothers' case has put the system under the spotlight

SHOULD the lid be lifted on the secrets of the jury system? The Maxwell brothers' verdict reopened debate about whether juries should be scrapped for complex fraud trials, *Frances Gibb writes.* George Staple, director of the Serious Fraud Office, favours abolition: Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC, Attorney-General, believes the issue should be re-examined and says the Government will look "very carefully" at whether fraud trial juries should be replaced with a judge and two experts. But voices are being raised in defence of the system: Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, and Christopher Sallon, QC, speaking for the Bar, said the verdicts "vindicated" trial by jury. The debate is hampered by lack of information on how juries carry out their task — and research is banned by law. A change in the law to allow research was recommended by the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice in 1993, which is supported by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor. Last week, too, Lord Donaldson of Lymington, former Master of the Rolls, said he would welcome research. But Lord Taylor of Gosforth, the Lord Chief Justice, is opposed, saying he would view any move "with concern". He believes research could lead to criminals seeking to overturn their convictions on the basis of disclosures about jurors' thinking. He said: "The lay jury is the foundation of our common law and nothing must be allowed to interfere with the confidentiality of its deliberations." In the so-called Ouija board case, a man charged with two murders won a retrial after four jurors had used a Ouija board to consult one of his victims.

George Staple: favours abolition of fraud jury

Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC: issue needs re-examining

Lord Mackay: wants research on juries

Lord Donaldson: would welcome research

Lord Taylor: would view research "with concern"

Putting juries on trial

Research into decision-making by jurors is illegal.

Mike McConville says why he thinks this is wrong

The dramatic "not guilty" verdicts in the Maxwell brothers' trial may well represent the most carefully deliberated suicide note in legal history. Indeed, the obituary notices for fraud-case juries are being prepared even before death has occurred while the circling vultures are still in dispute about the identity of the corpse. It remains true that though the Serious Fraud Office and George Staple, its hapless director, are favoured by some for an early demise, it is the jury itself that seems most likely to require the kiss of life, at least in complex fraud cases.

The first words of the death sentence for fraud juries were uttered ten years ago by the Departmental Committee on Fraud Trials chaired by Lord Roskill. The committee's proposals for reform of the management of fraud prosecutions were acted on almost immediately; its recommendation for a single unified organisation to take on all the functions of detection, investigation and prosecution of serious fraud quickly manifesting itself in the establishment of the Serious Fraud Office. But recommendations for the jury proved politically unsustainable. The public perception of the prosecution in the Maxwell brothers' case as a costly debacle, however, may ease the path of those who would wish the jury killed off.

The Roskill Committee believed juries got into difficulties when faced with complex transactions and financial market dealings outside their experience. Jurors, they felt, could not retain the evidence in long trials and therefore had an insecure foundation for their verdicts.

Accordingly, a majority of the committee recommended that juries be replaced in serious fraud cases by trial by judge and two expert lay assessors. But most of the concerns underlying their proposals have been removed and were certainly not in evidence in the Maxwell brothers' trial. There, the prosecution was handled by a single co-ordinated agency, judge and jurors had full administrative and technological support, the judge took control of the case and applied best-management principles to it, the jury was subject to intensive screening and the indictment, far from being overloaded, was stripped to its bare essentials.

The case also proved what intelligent observers had always argued: that allegations of serious fraud are reducible to simple transactions easily understood by the ordinary person. Against this background, the Maxwell brothers' trial seems more to illustrate the virtues of a modernised system than an example of archaic practice. Yet Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney-General, seems unconvinced. He wants to re-examine the Roskill proposals. The problem, however, is that the information on which any reasoned decision could be based is the same as that available to the Roskill Committee itself — precisely nothing. Roskill did no research into jury decision-making, indeed none has been possible since the Contempt of Court Act, 1981.

> The verdict, as the case was put, was the right one

Before that, I conducted research into jury verdicts with Dr John Baldwin (*Jury Trials, Oxford University Press*). Using questionnaires, we interviewed police, lawyers and judges involved in trials on the verdicts of juries. Their view was that mostly the jury had got it right.

In 1992, I also helped with a television programme, *Inside the Jury*, in which a shadow jury watched a series of trials and their deliberations were filmed and matched with the real jury. In the vast majority of cases, the shadow jury came up with the same result. The film showed their deliberations to be rational and thoughtful and that they had insight into gaps or mistakes in the prosecution or the defence case.

Yet the absence of a secure factual basis for what does go on still leaves the field open to speculation, innuendo and prejudice. O.J. Simpson's jury, we are asked to believe, got it wrong through lack of deliberation. In the Maxwell brothers' case they supposedly erred through over-deliberation. Yet the verdict on the jury is made without any deliberation at all and it is hard to believe that the Government would be giving consideration to the issue of jury trial had the Maxwells been convicted.

There is an alternative, more plausible explanation to that of jury error for the Maxwell verdicts: that on the case before them as presented, they got it right. Could it be that the fault — if any — lay with the prosecution, not so much in the way the technical evidence was put to lay jurors, but in its failure to put forward what was necessary to convince a panel of ordinary citizens of an individual's guilt?

The Maxwell brothers' jury may well have concluded that a massive fraud had been committed but that the defendants were not personally culpable. If so, we should not be seeking to scrap juries in such cases but to enable those who prepare prosecutions — who are prevented by restrictive rights of audience from appearing in court before juries — to gain a better understanding of how their fellow citizens weigh up questions of personal guilt or innocence.

Changes ought not to be considered without a systematic evaluation of fraud trials by accredited researchers. As we said in 1979: there seems "no good reason why the jury room should continue to be inviolate". This means looking not just at the jury, but also at the organisation, management and presentation of the prosecution, the contribution of the judge and the performance of the defence. Anything less will almost certainly result in a true miscarriage of justice — a fraud on the jury.

● *The author is professor of law and director of the Legal Research Institute at Warwick University.*

What Labour needs to do

Tony Benn's diaries for January 1975 record that he approached his Cabinet colleague, Lord Elwyn-Jones, the Lord Chancellor, "about the disturbing security case of the Civil Service candidate excluded because she read the *Morning Star*". Appreciating that good advocacy contains large quantities of flattery, Benn told Elwyn-Jones: "I'm talking to you as a great liberal Labour lawyer." Elwyn-Jones was unmoved. "Well," he replied, "I'm Lord Chancellor now."

Postwar Labour governments have promoted substantial legal reforms, including the introduction of legal aid, the creation of the Law Commission and the prohibition of discrimination on grounds of race and sex. But Labour Lord Chancellors, and Labour law officers, have frequently disappointed their supporters. On too many issues, Labour lawyers have proved themselves part of the legal establishment which they ought to have been reforming. Some of the difficulties faced by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the present Lord Chancellor, in his attempts to change the legal profession from a gentlemen's club into an efficient business serving the public interest, have been caused by the outrage felt by aggrieved lawyers who realised that here was a politician who actually intended to amend their working practices.

COUNSEL

DAVID PANNICK QC

The next Labour government will start with the distinct advantage that a stimulating agenda has been set out in *Law Reform For All*, a collection of essays by 26 Labour lawyers, and edited by David Bean, a barrister, for the Society of Labour Lawyers (Blackstone Press, £14.95). As Tony Blair, the Labour leader, explains in his introduction, the proposals are not party policy, but they will considerably advance the important debate about the future of the legal system.

The main contribution is from the Shadow Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC. He presents an incisive and persuasive analysis of what needs to be done to improve access to justice, to confer fundamental rights on individuals, and to reform the law governing such topics as immigration, discrimination and secrecy. He rightly emphasises that legal aid eligibility must be restored to those who have lost it since 1979 and that legal aid should be extended to cases heard by tribunals. He powerfully criticises the Government's proposals to cap legal aid, which would lead to an unprincipled scheme like the discredited social fund.

On some issues, Lord Irvine fails to convince. He has a touching faith in the value of cross-examination as a means of establishing the truth, a belief that finds little support in social science research. His support for the incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights into domestic law is undermined by the suggestion that a Human Rights Act should "provide that its protections can only be relied on by individuals, and not by companies or by organisations". Are newspapers and trade unions to have no enforceable rights? And how can new Labour expect to win the confidence of the City if the party denies rights to companies?

Lord Williams of Mostyn, QC, explains the urgent need to improve the "lamentably amateur" system for selecting, training and monitoring the judiciary. Keith Vaz, MP, and Maria Fernandes call for the restoration of rights of appeal for those refused entry to the United Kingdom as visitors. Michael Supperstone QC, makes an eloquent plea for amendment of the law on official secrecy and for a limit to ministers' reliance on "national security" to deny us the right to know how they are governing on our behalf. He diplomatically omits to mention that the 1977 law report of *R v Home Secretary ex parte Mark Hosenball* is a reminder of the shameful performance of the most recent Labour Government in this area.

Rabinder Singh maps out a programme (short-term and long-term) for the reform of discrimination law, so that the existing, inadequate strands are bound together to form a powerful principle of equality, requiring that people are judged on their merits, thus promoting justice and efficiency by helping the best person to be appointed to the job. Wisely, he says nothing about the illegality of all-women shortlists for selecting parliamentary candidates for a political party.

In his essay on legal aid and justice, Roger Smith rightly criticises the current strategic plan of the Lord Chancellor's Department for treating "the efficient and effective administration of justice at an affordable cost" as the objective to be achieved. Cost is certainly a significant consideration, but it is a means to the more important, and inspiring, goal of "the achievement of social justice".

Law Reform For All does not provide a detailed study of complex matters of policy, or give an objective assessment of the mixed performance of previous Labour lawyers. But it identifies, with clarity and force, the substance of what a Labour government needs to do in order to promote justice — legal as well as social. It defines the basic criteria by which the performance of the Lord Chancellor and of the law officers in the next Labour administration will be judged.

● *The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.*

Playing at the Bar

A NEW radio sit-com called *Chambers* is being recorded by the BBC. It chronicles the adventures of John Fuller-Carp, a head of chambers, who is played by the comedian John Bird.

The series was written by Clive Coleman, a barrister and school of law lecturer. He says: "I wanted to get under the skin of the Bar because it is a world of its own."

Tickets to the recording of *Chambers* in Broadcasting House are now available. It will be broadcast this spring.

Poaching game

KEVIN MAXWELL'S lawyers, Peters & Peters, have scored another coup against their old adversary by hiring Peter Binning, a Serious Fraud Office lawyer.

Mr Binning did not work on the Maxwell case "and I accepted the job before the Maxwell verdicts were announced", he said. He likes to think of himself as a gamekeeper turned poacher. "Though I am not sure that it isn't the other way around. Some people see the SFO as the poacher and the defence solicitors as the gamekeepers," he said.

OUTS

Getting married: artists Ian Hughes and Lucy Ross

Valentine hope

A VISIT to an exhibition at the law firm Collyer-Bristow's art gallery may offer the perfect Valentine's Day opportunity. A recent exhibition there featured the works of two Scottish artists, Ian Hughes and Lucy Ross. They had never met before but they have just announced they intend to marry. The new exhibition takes dance as its theme, and will be opened tomorrow by Viviana Durante, the principal ballerina with the Royal Ballet.

● *RALPH PICKEN, banking lawyer and* bon viveur, *is relishing taking over as managing partner at the London firm Trowers & Hamlins on Thursday. "I expect," he says, "to bring a relaxed approach to the role, alleviating the rigours of the job through the dogged pursuit of fine wines, excellent food, contemporary art and exotic travel."*

Age-old problem

THE LIFE of Sir Thomas More is being celebrated on Thursday with a lecture by Professor Simon Lee. The lecture, at the Old Hall in Lincoln's Inn at 6pm, marks the 500th anniversary of More's admission to the Inn as an 18-year-old. Given the problems he faces with his divorce reform proposals, it may not have escaped the current Lord Chancellor's attention that More landed in hot water over divorce.

Under fire

MARTIN MEARS, the Law Society president, is launching an inquiry into the circulation of an article by *The Mail on Sunday* detailing his domestic circumstances. Mears publicly attacked the head of public relations, Sue Stapely, for including the article among a routine circulation of press cuttings — and then came under fire from council members for doing so. The incident is the latest in hostilities at Chancery Lane: staff say things have never been more difficult.

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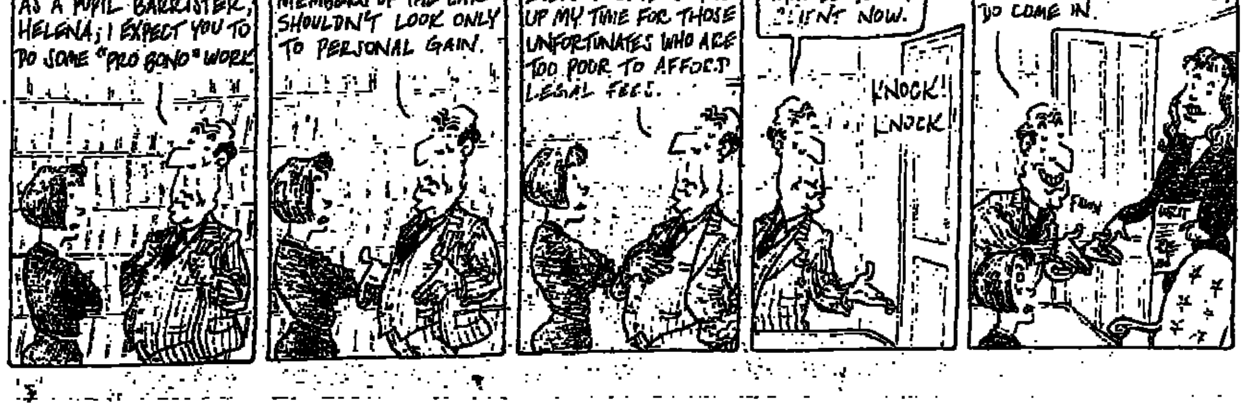
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هكذا من الأصل

Frances Gibb asks if attitudes towards women in the law are changing

The quiet battle of numbers rages on

Laura Cox: "The equality code is about educating people"

A woman has just become head of one of the best-known chambers at the Bar. The election of Laura Cox, QC, 44, as head of the 40-strong leading civil liberties set, Cloisters, is still unusual enough to prompt comment: the number of women who have reached the top of what was once an almost all-male preserve is rising. But the proportions remain starkly disparate: Ms Cox is one of 57 women Queen's Counsel of a total 891 QCs; and one of a handful of women heads of chambers. And women, while now accounting for nearly half the Bar's new entrants, are still only 1,900 of 8,500 practising barristers.

Her election to succeed David Turner-Samuels, QC, who founded the set in 1954 with John Platts-Mills, QC, is therefore significant — and timely. Ms Cox, who is also the 1996 chairman of the Bar's sex discrimination committee, was closely involved with work on the Bar's equality code which chambers must now implement.

"So much has been done in the past five years," she says. "The Bar is really getting its house in order — the equality code brings it into line with the best practice in much of industry."

Now, she argues, the issue is how to put it into effect without making people fearful that they are becoming victims of arch political correctness. "It's about educating people to be more aware. It's nothing more radical than requiring people to be sensitive in the way they deal with their professional colleagues."

Ms Cox herself has not suffered discrimination. She has combined a thriving practice in employment, discrimination and professional negligence work with bringing up three boys (15, 12 and two) but pays full credit to her husband who gave up his career as a horticultural scientist to stay at home and look after the children. Nonetheless, women do face obstacles and fail to progress as they might, she says.

The problems will be aired at a conference in April (for lawyers, managing partners, heads of chambers, clerks and personnel managers). The occasion — where speakers will include Martin Mears, president of the Law Society, and Cherie Booth, QC — promises to be lively: the first conference of its kind, last year, was the scene for allegations of sexual harassment which set in train events leading to Mr Mears's election. Margaret McCabe, the barrister whose idea it was, says: "It was hugely successful, packed out. Last year was really about raising awareness — for many lawyers, it was the first time they'd really compared notes and found they faced the same problems.

"This time we are looking at the practical problems, how to change attitudes. As the title suggests, there needs to be a whole changing culture if women lawyers are to achieve their potential."

CHANGING THE CULTURE: SATURDAY APRIL 20

A conference organised by the Bar and the Law Society and sponsored by *The Times* will take place on April 20. Speakers include Lord Justice Otton, Mr Justice Sedley, Mrs Justice Arden, Kamlesh Bahl, chairwoman of the Equal Opportunities Commission and Lady Howe. Registration before Feb 29: £129.25 (inclusive of VAT). After Feb 29: £164.50; students and trainees: £58.75. Details: Blair Communications (0171-722 9731).

Slow progress in America

MEN and women are entering the law in equal numbers. But a report just published by the American Bar Association shows that in America, as in Britain, women remain unequal when it comes to promotion, pay and opportunities. In 1995 only 12.9 per cent of partners in the top American law firms were women. In New York a woman lawyer's chance of becoming a partner has fallen from 15 per cent in 1981 to 5 per cent in 1995. Over the same period, men's rate of promotion fell only 4 points from 21 per cent to 17 per cent.

Laurel Bellows, a lawyer based in Chicago who chaired the ABA's commission on the status of women lawyers, says she had expected to find that there had been steady progress. Instead, the commission found that "neither the sheer number of female law school graduates, nor the mere passage of time, nor even the elevation of individual women to positions of prominence has dramatically enhanced opportunities for women as partners, law professors or judges".

The status of women has changed little since America's First Lady, Hillary Clinton, delivered the commission's last report seven years ago. "Firms can no longer say there are not enough women about. Law firms have the ability to select women for promotion but have made the decision not to do so," Ms Bellows says. The report identified only one area where the rates of promotion reflected the make-up of the available pool of lawyers — more than 31 per cent of President Clinton's judicial appointments at federal level have been women.

Women were also, on average, still paid less. Research in Colorado found that women who had one to three years' experience earned US$7,000 less than male counterparts, even though their experience and fee-earning capabilities were the same.

The commission found that the legal workplace was rife with attitudes and actions that devalued women by excluding them from many avenues of career enhancement, restricting their access to key clients, questioning their commitment if they wanted to have families and stigmatising their requests for flexible work schedules.

The commission was happy to debunk at least one myth — that women lawyers are quitting the practice of law in droves. "This myth fuels the false stereotype that women are less committed to their careers. But there is only a 1 to 2 per cent difference between men and women exiting the profession," Ms Bellows says.

There is some good news, however. More women are being promoted to the position of General Counsel within American companies — their numbers rose by 20 per cent to 528 in 1995.

But, Ms Bellows says, women lawyers must learn to fight their own corner. "They still suffer from a lack of expectation. They are not really informed about the barriers in the profession and they may not always realise that their failure to go forward is the result of hitting these barriers." Women, she says, have the ability and numbers to demand change, "but they are not yet vocal enough".

JO CARR

Big fish get the boardroom deals

Mergers and acquisitions are back in favour. But City credibility is all in the scramble to clinch the work

Dan Mace: took part in the Forte takeover

Last Tuesday evening Dan Mace, of Lovell White Durrant, partied in the City along with the other advisers to the successful Granada bid. On Wednesday he attended his clients, AGM, to enjoy the spoils of victory. For the Lovells team, and its opposite numbers at Slaughter & May, who had provided advice to the bankers, it was an excellent, but demanding, start to the year.

"We'd been involved in the bid since the end of November and there were plenty of occasions when we worked through the night," Mr Mace says. "We normally met the clients a couple of times a week and it was essential that everyone should be available all the time."

The Granada takeover of Forte has been the most contentious deal for some time, and it may signal the return of the successful hostile bid. In any case, it clearly underlines the point that mergers and acquisitions work is back on the agenda of City law firms in a major way.

This had already been suggested by the figures in this month's *Acquisitions Monthly*. These pointed out that 1995 was a bumper year for legal fees. Philip Healey, editor of the magazine, said that there were no obvious factors to suggest that the good times would not continue, and the Forte takeover bears that out.

In tense City battles clients look, above all, for cast-iron security from their legal advisers and nothing breeds confidence like involvement in a high-profile transaction. Lovells can be assured that others will follow Granada's lead in making use of its services.

As the annual rankings reveal, however, it is the usual "gang of four" (Freshfields, Slaughter & May, Linklaters & Paines and Clifford Chance) which dominate the top end of the mergers and acquisitions market.

What is more interesting is to see newer faces trying to break into this lucrative market. Creeping in at the bottom of the premier league is Olswang which, while best known for its media and information technology work, is now becoming a force in corporate finance.

Simon Olswang says: "We have been working hard at this field. What clients want is 100 per cent reliable advice, combined with commercial understanding."

The fact that Olswang is now enjoying success in advising both corporate clients and financial institutions bears out the benefits of having experience in both capacities. According to Barbara Stephenson of Norton Rose (which also enjoyed a good year in 1995), it is important to understand the issues from both ends. It is also critical to be well regarded by the banks, since they are often crucial in influencing which lawyers are used. A company's normal legal advisers may be overlooked if they lack City credibility. Ms Stephenson says: "After some of the things which happened in the great boom of the Eighties, everyone is very concerned that there should be no mistakes. That's why an established reputation for reliability is paramount."

John Clark, of Theodore Goddard, acknowledges, with some frustration, that clients often like to "play safe with the big names". His firm made good progress last year in the mergers and acquisitions field, but has not yet broken into the elite group. "I'm confident my team could match the skills of the top firms, but the big ticket jobs still tend to go to them," he says. Having been involved in the TSB-Lloyds merger, however, Mr Clark and his team are starting to get a feel for what it might be like at the top.

It can be risky, however, pitching for the pinnacle. Although just half a dozen lawyers may be working continuously on a big deal, there may be occasions when up to 25 are required to pitch in over a weekend. To have that kind of strength on tap demands that a constant flow of work is coming through. And not everyone wants to take that risk.

As last week showed, however, takeover work is the biggest game in town. To win you need the nerve of a poker player.

EDWARD FENNELL

TOP 20

☐ **Top 20 legal advisers to companies in UK public takeovers in 1995:**

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3. Linklaters & Paines
4. Clifford Chance
5. Theodore Goddard
6. Norton Rose
7. Herbert Smith
8. Allen & Overy
9. Denton Hall
10. Simmons & Simmons
11. Ashurst Morris Crisp
12. Travers Smith Braithwaite
13. Macfarlanes
14. Berwin Leighton
15. Frere Cholmeley Bischoff
16. Walker Morris
17. McCann Fitzgerald
18. Lovell White Durrant
19. Olswang
20. Nabarro Nathanson

● *Source:* Acquisitions Monthly

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IP/IT – NON-CONTENTIOUS *To £50,000*
1-4 year qualified IP/IT lawyer sought to join vibrant IP/IT department undertaking large scale transactional work for top FTSE clients. You will have a strong academic record, and an ability to deal at the highest level. Work is non-contentious. This international City firm is pre-eminent. Ref: T26047

BANKING – SOUTH WEST *To £Partnership*
Leading South West practice, seeks senior assistant/junior partner, with at least 6 years' pqe from major City practice to join expanding banking department, which already undertakes general top end banking work for well-known banking clients. Superb opportunity to make your mark in this beautiful area of the country. Immediate/short-term partnership prospects. Ref: T26065

PROPERTY BOOM *To £60,000*
Star rated property practice within the City seeks assistants at all levels, particularly 2-4 and 5-6 years' pqe to join development and investment-led client groups. Firm has outstanding property reputation, combining partners well-known in the field, with premier quality work. You will only gain by a move here. Top salary. Ref: T15493

IP/IT – IN-HOUSE *To £50,000*
International company specialising in computer transactions for processing banking software seeks 2-7 years' pqe IT/IP lawyer to join legal department. You must be commercial, robust and confident. Excellent opportunity with some overseas travel. Moving in-house? This position is superb. Ref: T26058

MARINE INSURANCE/PERSONAL INJURY *To £35,000*
P&I club seeks solicitor/barrister with 2 years' experience in marine insurance gained in-house or in private practice. You will deal with the American syndicate covering Canada and North America, as well Europe, and also undertake personal injury work. Commercial, robust and confident, you will be able to work within a close knit team. Ref: T26027

CORPORATE *To £37,000*
International City firm seeks corporate finance lawyer, 1-2 years' pqe to undertake acquisitions, disposals, and joint ventures. Yellow and Blue Book experience useful but not essential. From another top City practice, applicants must be confident with good academics. Outstanding opportunity to excel in a progressive, forward thinking firm. Ref: T24519

IN-HOUSE – TRADEMARKS *To £20,000*
Major media corporation seeks trademarks manager to be part of IP department advising on the protection and exploitation of IP rights, including trademarks, copyright, passing off, patents and design law. You will have a minimum of 2 years' trademarks experience, preferably ITMA qualified with a basic knowledge of copyright law. Ref: T25890

CORPORATE FINANCE *To £70,000*
London office of large Australian firm seeks 3-6 years' pqe dual qualified corporate lawyers. You should be enthusiastic, innovative with a commercial approach. You will undertake a broad range of heavyweight corporate, banking and financing work. Good prospects. Ref: T26054

PROJECT/TRADE/STRUCTURED FINANCE *£Partnership*
Top West End practice seeks senior practitioners with structured/ project/trade finance experience and followings of minimum £100,000 to add to enviable client base in these areas. Immediate partnership on offer. This firm can not only transform your practice, but also your lifestyle. Seeking escape from City environment? This firm is your solution! Ref: T14731

NON-CONTENTIOUS INSURANCE *To £70,000*
Highly rated West End practice seeks senior practitioners with 3-7 years' non-contentious experience gained at respected practice or in-house position. You will immediately integrate into this firm's existing insurance client base. First class prospects for advancement. Ref: T17952

TAX *To £65,000*
Tax practitioners with anywhere from 2-6 years' experience are being sought after by this Central London practice. With a number of major, often high profile international clients, your workload will consistently challenge your skills and allow you to further your expertise. Strong opportunities for advancement. Ref: T19683

OIL & GAS *To £65,000*
This US based international law firm is seeking to add a senior solicitor with between 5 and 10 years' experience in the oil and gas sector to join its London office. With experience in the Far East, as well as having dealings in oil policy regulation, you will have the opportunity to work on the most challenging of international oil and gas work. Ref: T18751

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Stephen Rodney, Alison Jacobs or Christopher Sweeney (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-354 3079 or 0171-731 5699 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. E-mail stephen.qdrec.demon.co.uk

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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY OR PRIVATE CLIENT PARTNER

An outstanding opportunity to join the West of England's premier commercial law firm. Your ability to lead is more important than your agricultural experience.

Burges Salmon has a unique position nationally for its agricultural business practice. As well as major partnerships and individuals, its client base in this sphere includes national organisations, the leading banks and other corporates which are involved in significant agriculture related transactions.

The firm is now seeking to recruit a partner to head-up and develop further its non-contentious agricultural business practice, enabling it fully to utilise its exceptional client connections and generally to expand this area of practice.

As an ambitious commercial property or private client partner from a City or other leading regional practice, you will recognise this superb opportunity to build further on the firm's reputation for this work. Relevant experience in agricultural tenancy work is not a pre-requisite. Of greater importance will be your leadership, management and practice development skills and an enthusiasm and ability to draw together all strands of the non-contentious agriculture work from around the firm. The role will also involve co-ordinating the firm's developing agricultural practice in Eastern Europe.

Reflecting the strategic importance the firm places on this appointment, an immediate partnership with an appropriate remuneration package, comparable to the firm's City equivalents, will be offered.

QD QUARRY DOUGALL

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Stephen Rodney on 0171-405 6062 (0171-354 3079 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. Initial discussions can be held on a no-names basis. This assignment is being handled exclusively by Quarry Dougall.

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PRACTICE MANAGER (SENIOR CLERK)
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Experienced litigation solicitor required by East Sussex firm with legal aid franchise in matrimonial and personal injury to take over Partners caseload. Sense of humour necessary. Good prospects for the right person.
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CORPORATE TAX South Coast. Prominent regional firm. Min 4 yrs corp. tax experience. Marketing skills essential. Call JHA 01730 895005 (Agy)

CORPORATE / IP - BRISTOL - Leading practice seek Sol 1-5 yrs PQE to assist team leader for general co.co and non-contentious IP. Tel: Macdonald & Company (Agy) 01747 828537. Fax: 01747 828047.

PROBATE, TAX, TRUSTS - HOME COUNTIES - Major regional practice with successful private client department seek Sol. 3+ yrs PQE to assist lead partner, handling quality work. Tel: 01747 828537. (Agy) Fax: 01747 828047.

INSURANCE LITIGATION - SOUTH - Niche practice seeks partnerable outgoing Sol. 3 yrs + PQE acting for insurers on a range of quality matters. Tel: 01747 828537. (Agy) Fax: 01747 828047.

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We are heavily involved in many major infrastructure projects throughout the world including telecommunications, power stations, airports, roads and bridges. We act for governments, sponsors, project companies and banks.

SECURITISATION

We act for originators, lead managers, credit enhancers and trustees on transactions which are complex and often innovative, requiring a considerable degree of creative thinking.

You should have one to six years' good quality post-qualification experience with a leading commercial firm. Experience in banking, international capital markets or *securitisation is preferred but not* essential. We can offer you the highest quality work, real responsibility and the opportunity to make full use of your potential.

If you would like to be considered, please write with full CV to: Martin Pexton, Allen & Overy, One New Change, London EC4M 9QQ, or telephone on 0171-330 4100.

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However, as a qualified lawyer, you don't need to tie yourself to the monotony of one specialisation. You have the choice.

You could change the shape and direction of your career by joining our client's small, professional team, which handles a very wide-range of legal work for a large organisation, so that each member enjoys immense variety with immediate and individual responsibility. You should have at least two year's post-qualification experience, including some criminal law, and ideally civil litigation. Your aptitude for logical and lateral thought, your flexibility of approach and ability to think on your feet will be important.

Your starting salary will be around £32,000 plus benefits, depending on your experience.

If you are interested in broadening your legal career, send a full CV to Bob Gunning, at Austin Knight UK Limited,
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Our Organisation

Devolved decision making; an open style of management; real access to decision makers; and, most importantly, the authority to do your job. This, in a nutshell, is our philosophy at Merton.

We have a new Chief Executive in Sue Charteris who has succeeded Heather Rabbatts; we have a strong senior management team; and ambitious initiatives to put Merton on the map.

The Job . . .

. . . involves the management of a legal function of around 20 people and providing advice direct to the Chief Executive, Chief Officers and the Council as a whole – so the role is definitely high profile. There is scope to review the departmental structure, with staff training and development high on the agenda as we are committed to providing a competitive service with a strong customer focus. In short, change lies ahead and we need you to make a real contribution to that process – not only in legal services, but across the Council.

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We seek a rare commodity. A qualified solicitor/barrister, you are likely to be leading a legal team within a complex, multipurpose environment. Perhaps in your current role, you are stifled by those above you, don't have the real authority to do your work properly or are not given the opportunity to show your real potential. Your knowledge of the law and its trends as they apply to local government is unquestionable and you are used to providing advice to Members of a Council/Board. More than this, you have the ability to manage teams through change and enjoy contributing proactively to the development of corporate policy/strategy.

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Take a closer look by requesting the information pack on 0171-939 4141, quoting reference M/1619. If you want an informal, confidential discussion on this then please contact Michael J. Phillips on 0171-939 5929. Closing date is Monday February 19th.

Applications are particularly welcome from women and members of the ethnic minority communities as they are currently under-represented at this level in the Council.

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London SE1 9QL.
Fax: 0171-403 5265.

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ASIA

We are an international law firm with 28 offices worldwide and are seeking a limited number of enterprising and ambitious assistant solicitors to work in Asia, where we have a strong and growing international and English practice with an emphasis on capital markets, banking, project finance, telecommunications and corporate work.

We require assistant solicitors qualified in both England and Hong Kong who are either newly qualified or have up to three PQE in the following areas:

- international finance
- project finance
- corporate/commercial
- telecommunications
- intellectual property

to join our associated firm of Hong Kong solicitors, Grice & Co. There you will practice English and Hong Kong law with other solicitors in Grice & Co. and with attorneys in the Hong Kong office of White & Case. You will be expected to work regionally in conjunction with our offices in Singapore, Tokyo, Bangkok, Hanoi and Jakarta. Opportunities may arise for relocation to another of our offices in Asia.

You will be an innovative and confident solicitor in a leading firm, with excellent academic qualifications and technical abilities who is looking for a new and rewarding challenge in a collegial atmosphere. Fluency in an Asian language while desirable is not a prerequisite.

We offer a highly competitive package and genuine partnership opportunities.

For further information in complete confidence please write to The Recruitment Partner, Grice & Co., Solicitors in association with White & Case, 9th Floor, Gloucester Tower, The Landmark, 11 Pedder Street, Central, Hong Kong.

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Head of Legal Affairs/ Company Secretary

Cheshire **c £50-55,000 + Bens**

Following a highly successful leveraged buy out in 1991, our client has enjoyed sustained profitability and currently has a turnover of £140 million. Now preparing for flotation on the Stock Market, it has been decided to appoint an experienced Company Secretary.

The Role

Reporting to the Chief Executive you will be responsible for corporate housekeeping as well as playing a major part in the proposed flotation. As a key member of a dynamic senior management team you will have responsibility for the development of internal legal policy and the management of all legal affairs. There will be plenty of opportunity to work closely with commercial managers and undertake an active role in commercial matters, particularly in relation to corporate transactions and contract negotiations and management.

The Person

You will have an impressive track record as a qualified lawyer with considerable experience of the corporate environment. You are either working as a Company Secretary now or will have done so in the recent past. Alternatively if you are currently in private practice you will have broad company secretarial and both yellow and blue book experience. Exposure to flotation and M&A work will be an asset. With excellent interpersonal and communication skills you will adopt a proactive, commercial approach to decision making.

For further information, in complete confidence, please call Dominic Corser on 0171 831 2000 or write to him with a current CV and salary details at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH or fax 0171 831 6662.

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CFP LONDON

CITY **INSOLVENCY**
Due to expansion, this top City firm requires 2 additional solicitors to handle an insolvency caseload, specialising in either contentious or non-contentious work. Candidates will have at least 3 year's PQE and have gained experience with a recognised firm. Excellent prospects. Ref: TS/12797.

CITY **BANKING**
Leading commercial firm seeks newly qualified solicitors to join banking group. You will have trained with a top firm and be keen to assume responsibility for a varied and general caseload. Ref: TS/12798.

CITY **PERSONAL INJURY**
Recognised leader in this field requires additional fee earner to join insurance litigation team. You will have at least one year's experience, of a defendant caseload including EL, PL and some RTA. Ref: TS/12431.

CITY **IN-HOUSE**
Superb opportunity to join this international telecoms company. Busy legal department requires bright and ambitious lawyer to undertake broad spread of regulatory/competition work. You should possess strong corporate or telecoms experience with a commitment to a career in-house. Ref: TS/12740.

CITY **CORPORATE FINANCE**
Highly regarded medium sized practice requires solicitor to undertake transactional caseload including both blue and yellow book work. Exciting opportunity to gain high level exposure to clients with a real opportunity to progress. Ref: TS/12730.

HOLBORN **TAX**
Flourishing medium sized firm requires a dynamic solicitor with 2-4 year's strong mainstream corporate tax experience from a recognised firm. You should have good academics and a genuine desire to further your career. Ref: T5/10567.

CITY **EMPLOYMENT**
Medium sized firm with excellent reputation in this field seeks employment solicitor to undertake a mix of contentious and non-contentious work. You should have around 4-5 year's primarily contentious experience and possess a strong personality. Excellent prospects. Ref: T5/12728.

CITY **CONSTRUCTION**
Busy construction team in highly regarded City firm needs further solicitor due to expanding caseload. Work will be contentious including arbitration and you should have 1-4 year's similar experience gained from a high calibre firm. Ref: T5/12635.

CITY **COMMERCIAL PROPERTY**
Opportunity to join respected property group within this commercial firm. 2-6 year's experience of property development coupled with an outgoing personality are required to secure this position. Ref: T5/12799.

CITY **SHIP FINANCE**
Shipping practice of medium sized commercial firm seeks solicitor with up to 3 year's experience. You will handle financing, loans and securities on behalf of banks, financial institutions and ship owners. You will be highly motivated and have a positive attitude to work. Ref: T/12791.

Above is a small representative sample of some of the vacancies we have registered with us from law firms throughout the U.K. For more information on our services telephone us or alternatively write to us at 4 Bloomsbury Place, LONDON WC1A 2QA; 137 Newhall Street, BIRMINGHAM B3 1SF; 22 Deansgate, MANCHESTER M3 1PH; 31-33 Corn Street, BRISTOL BS1 1HT; or 32 Sovereign Street, LEEDS LS1 4BJ. All enquiries will be treated in strictest confidence. We do not and never have sent out candidates' C.V.'s without their permission. Only Charles Fellowes are able to keep a Watching Brief® on your career.

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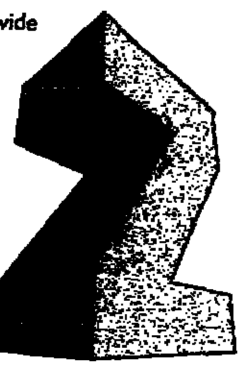

Zenith is one of the UK's leading independent production companies, making a wide range of television programmes and feature films.

Resulting from its expanding activities, a Legal and Business Affairs Executive is now sought to assist the new Director of Legal and Business Affairs in a wide variety of general contractual matters, working closely with the Company's production offices.

You will have up to 1 year's pqe, with directly relevant experience preferred. Of fundamental importance will be your enthusiasm to join this fast moving media environment. A more experienced contracts manager would also be considered.

An attractive salary and benefits package will be offered to the successful candidate.

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*For further information, in complete confidence, please contact **Stephen Rodney** or **Emma Cowell** on **0171-405 6062** (0171-385 1109 evenings/weekends) or write to them at **Quarry Dougall Commerce & Industry Recruitment**, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax 0171-831 6394. This assignment is being handled exclusively by Quarry Dougall Commerce & Industry Recruitment. All CVs will be sent to Quarry Dougall.*

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THE COMPANY

◆ Sophisticated niche player providing investment management services including global fixed income, convertible securities and hedge arbitrage.

◆ Reputation for creative and innovative approach.

THE POSITION

◆ New role reporting to Managing Director. High profile.

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◆ Advise management on regulatory and contractual matters and a diverse range of commercial issues affecting the business.

◆ Knowledge of offshore structures and financial engineering capabilities are a requirement.

QUALIFICATIONS

◆ Lawyer with at least four years' experience in banking/financial products particularly, stock loan, derivatives, and portfolio management.

◆ Broad knowledge of corporate/commercial law and familiarity with comparative and international law. Familiarity with SFA/IMRO and Bank of England regulations essential.

◆ First class technical and communication skills. Commercial approach. Team player. French language ability useful.

Please send full cv, stating salary, ref FS60107, to NBS, 10 Arthur Street, London EC4R 9AY

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

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Manches & Co is a leading commercial practice providing quality advice to an impressive portfolio of national and international clients. With offices in London and Oxford, the firm has constantly responded to market needs and possesses an enviable reputation in specialist areas of law.

The flourishing Oxford office now offers a unique opportunity for a high-calibre intellectual property assistant to join its company/commercial department. The role involves providing commercial advice with a high IP content to clients operating in publishing, IT and science/technology-based industries.

The ideal candidate should have gained:

- 1-3 years commercial experience from a city or leading provincial practice
- A thorough grounding in IP law including patents, copyright, designs, trade marks and passing off
- Experience in UK and EC competition law

This is an excellent opportunity for an ambitious, motivated lawyer to handle high quality work in a supportive environment. In addition, the firm offers the salary, benefits and partnership prospects expected of a progressive practice.

Interviews to be held in London, Birmingham and Manchester.

To discuss this opportunity in total confidence please contact Lea Toal BA (Hons) or Beverley Nicholas BA (Hons). Alternatively, send your cv to either of them at the address opposite:

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BERMUDA
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We aim to expand our practice by recruiting an additional solicitor.

The ideal applicant will have a first class academic background and approximately 5 years' relevant post qualification experience, probably with a leading firm in the United Kingdom.

The successful applicant will join a highly motivated team advising multinational clients in relation to a wide variety of matters, including corporate, mutual fund, banking and international finance transactions. Some experience of trust work would also be desirable.

The financial rewards and scope for personal development are excellent in this attractive working environment. There is no personal taxation in Bermuda.

Applications with a CV should be addressed to Mr. Max Quin, M.L.H. Quin & Co., P.O. Box HM 1737, Hamilton HM GX, Bermuda. (Fax: 001 (441) 292-8899/Tel: 001 (441) 292-7070).

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To £70,000 3-6 Years' Pqe

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- Exposure to the European Patent Office and experience of reviewing high profile patent claims.
- The skills and proven ability to undertake licensing and distribution arrangements within the mobile telecoms environment.
- Sound commercial acumen combined with self motivation and enthusiasm to contribute to the expansion of this highly focused team.
- Ability and flexibility to work in a small team, undertake a challenging and demanding work load, shoulder responsibility and adopt a proactive approach.

You will be a lawyer with between 3-6 years' patents/telecoms experience gained in private practice or industry, or an experienced patent agent.

This is an outstanding opportunity to act for a high profile, international and domestic client base. There is a first rate salary package and excellent next in line partnership prospects within this burgeoning patents/IP/telecoms department.

*For further information in complete confidence please contact **Alison Jacobs** or **Gareth Quarry** on **0171-405 6062** (0171-731 5699 evenings/weekends) or write to them at **Quarry Dougall Recruitment**, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax 0171-831 6394*

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CLOISTERS

THE CHAMBERS OF LAURA COX QC

Laura Cox Q.C has been elected as the new Head of Chambers. She succeeds David Turner-Samuels Q.C. who retires as Head of Chambers but will continue to practice from Cloisters.

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—COMPTROLLER AND CITY SOLICITOR'S OFFICE—

Commercial Property Lawyer

(Chief Legal Assistant – Grade JE12)
£36,828 - £44,541

The Corporation of London is the Local Authority for the "Square Mile". It is committed to the support of the City as a pre-eminent international financial and business centre.

The Corporation owns and manages a substantial commercial property portfolio; this includes offices, industrial and retail property; its market holdings (Smithfield, Billingsgate and new Spitalfields) and large areas of open spaces, including Hampstead Heath, Epping Forest and Kent and Surrey Commons.

The Comptroller and City Solicitor is seeking to appoint a qualified Senior Commercial Property Lawyer to join its Property and Public Law Division. The successful applicant is likely to fulfil the following criteria:

- Five or more years' post-qualification experience
- Experience in development, geared ground leases, lettings and management
- An ability to manage and operate as part of a team
- A willingness to react positively to the demands of the property industry and the City's business community

Previous local government experience is not essential for this position.

Benefits include 25 days' holiday per annum plus up to 5 customary days, staff luncheon facilities and interest-free loan facilities for London Transport/British Rail Annual Season Tickets.

If you would like an informal discussion, please telephone Mr John Clift on 0171-332 1685.

For an application form and further details, please contact the Administration Office on 0171-332 1696 or write to the Comptroller and City Solicitor's Office, Corporation of London, PO Box 270, Guildhall, London EC2P 2EJ.

Completed application forms should be returned by 13th February 1996.

The Corporation is committed to equality of opportunities.

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Professionally qualified lawyer required for St. Johns, Isle of Man based Company Managers. *The position may suit a recently qualified* lawyer with some experience within the offshore Company and Trust environment. *Apply in writing, in confidence, with full CV to:*

Mrs Diane Dentith, FCIS, Managing Director,
INTERNATIONAL COMPANY SERVICES LIMITED
Sovereign House, St.Johns,
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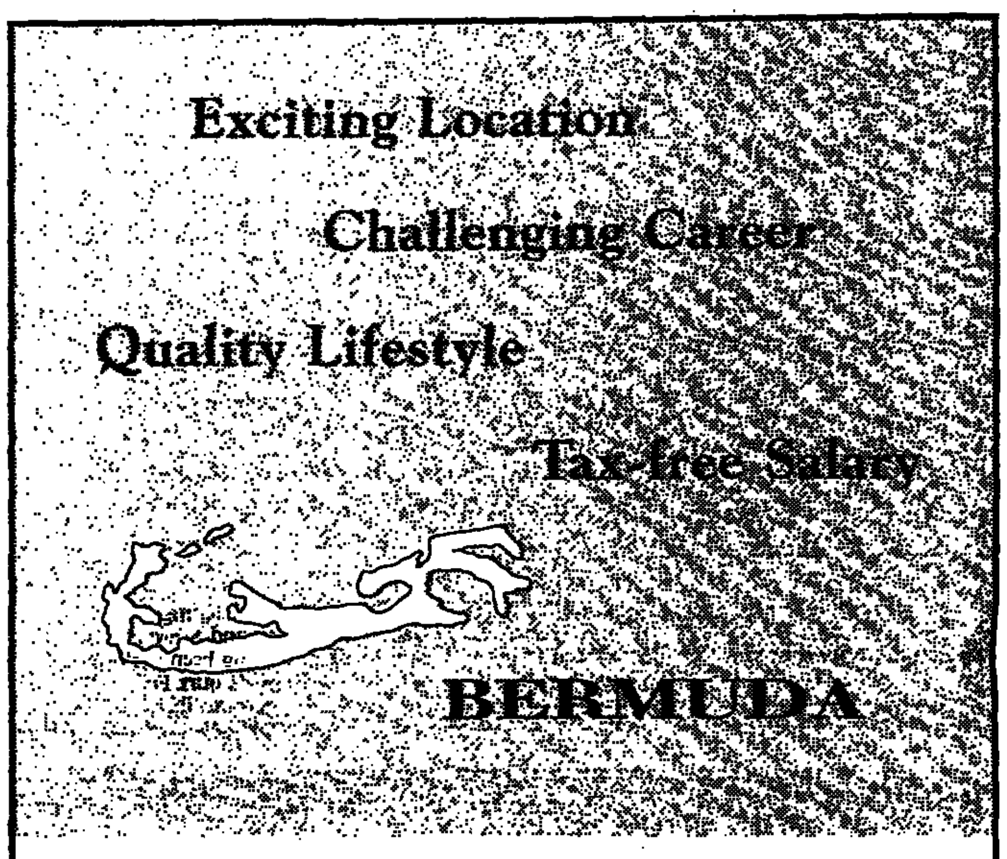

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INTERVIEW

Singing the *Valley Song* in the new South Africa: Athol Fugard talks about his new play

POP

It's fun to be in the country — at least when the Mavericks give it their unique stamp

THE TIMES ARTS

MUSIC 1

Gidon Kremer is brilliant and sloppy in equal measures in the Brahms Violin Concerto

MUSIC 2

Oliver Knussen supervises a showcase for the music of promising young composers

Apartheid is dead – what happens now? **Heather Neill** talks to a man with more answers than most

Fugard returns to face the new South African

Not long ago, South African writers had a clear objective: to protest against apartheid. "We fuelled our creativity with abhorrence," says the most famous of them, Athol Fugard. "It provided a powerful energy. Now we have to find a new motor to drive us."

Fugard seems to have faced the challenge successfully in *Valley Song*, a play he describes as "a transitional piece" which reflects the new political mood in his beloved homeland. *Valley Song* is a *two-hander, but with three* characters. Besides directing the piece, Fugard plays both the Afrikaner Author, closely modelled on himself, and Buks, a poor Coloured (mixed race) tenant farmer. Buks's only companion is his adored teenage granddaughter, Veronica, a talented singer, who wants to escape to the city in search of fame and fortune.

Valley Song was first performed at the Market Theatre in Johannesburg last summer and, after a spell in New York, opens at the Royal Court tomorrow. Fugard, a wiry, energetic 63, has been associated with the campaigning Market for 40 years. The theatre's present director, the actor John Kani, acknowledges its changing role in the new South Africa. Educational projects have used drama to teach first-time voters about the workings of democracy, while teachers request more conventional help to assist in spreading the warning about Aids and to illuminate texts such as *Julius Caesar* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Here continuing political division provides clear parallels, the Montagues and Capulets being identified with the rival ANC and Inkatha parties.

The audience at the Market Theatre has always been multiracial, its licence originally, and grudgingly, allowed because the building was literally part of a market, one of the few areas where people of different races could mix freely. Fugard *says that the audiences* for *Valley Song* were made up more or less equally of blacks and whites. "It is the one established theatrical venue in Johannesburg patronised by Soweto," he says. But, even allowing for the respect accorded him as a battle-hardened anti-apartheid campaigner, wasn't he courting trouble in daring to impersonate a poor Coloured farmer?

> ❛I felt compelled to go out there and take it on the chin❜

Fugard has been surprised, he says, by the almost complete absence of adverse criticism, especially in America. "I expected to be shot down in flames. In fact, the young black girl and the old white man together on the stage make a family, and that had a tremendously positive effect in the United States."

Choosing to play Buks was no whim. "For about 40 years I have been trying to do this, hoping that people will see beyond skin colour to the essential humanity of another," he says. "In moving from the white Author to the Coloured man, with just a woollen cap and a change of posture to make the difference, I am taking that challenge a step further."

Besides, he believes he has much in common with Buks. "We are two sides of the same coin. I am a white South African, with all the privileges that implies; he is *poor*. But as a man he is the person I would have liked to be, not for his poverty, but his dignity and values." Cultivating the land is a favourite metaphor for *Fugard as a writer: "Him with* his handful of seeds is Athol Fugard with his handful of words." His love for the landscape of South Africa is lyrically expressed in *Valley Song*.

Buks is based on a real person, now 78 and ailing, living in the remote village in the Karoo, the semi-desert a day's drive from Johannesburg, where Fugard lives. The house the Author buys and Buks fears he will have to leave is Fugard's house.

"The Author is taken directly from my life," Fugard says. "I felt compelled in the premiere production to go out there and take it on the chin myself." Veronica, too, has a real-life counterpart (although unrelated to the Buks character). She is now in Cape Town trying to realise her dream *and become a singer*.

But however specific the detail, the story — of ambitious youth thwarted by possessive, emotionally dependent age — is an archetypal one. Even this has echoes of Fugard's past. "It is partly written out of my experience of early manhood. My father was a cripple, dependent. I knew survival in my own right depended on my leaving."

His subsequent career led to a string of famous plays, many of which, including *Boesman and Lena* and *Sizwe Bansi is Dead* having been performed at the Royal Court. Fugard has been a hero to liberal British audiences for a couple of generations. This week he has enjoyed a sense of homecoming in wintry London and is realising an ambition to act on the Court stage, having often directed his work there. Despite the chill, he jogs daily and is energetically re-rehearsing his first (South African) Veronica. Esmeralda Bihl is a 24-year-old actress and singer who had to make much the same commitment to her career as the character she plays.

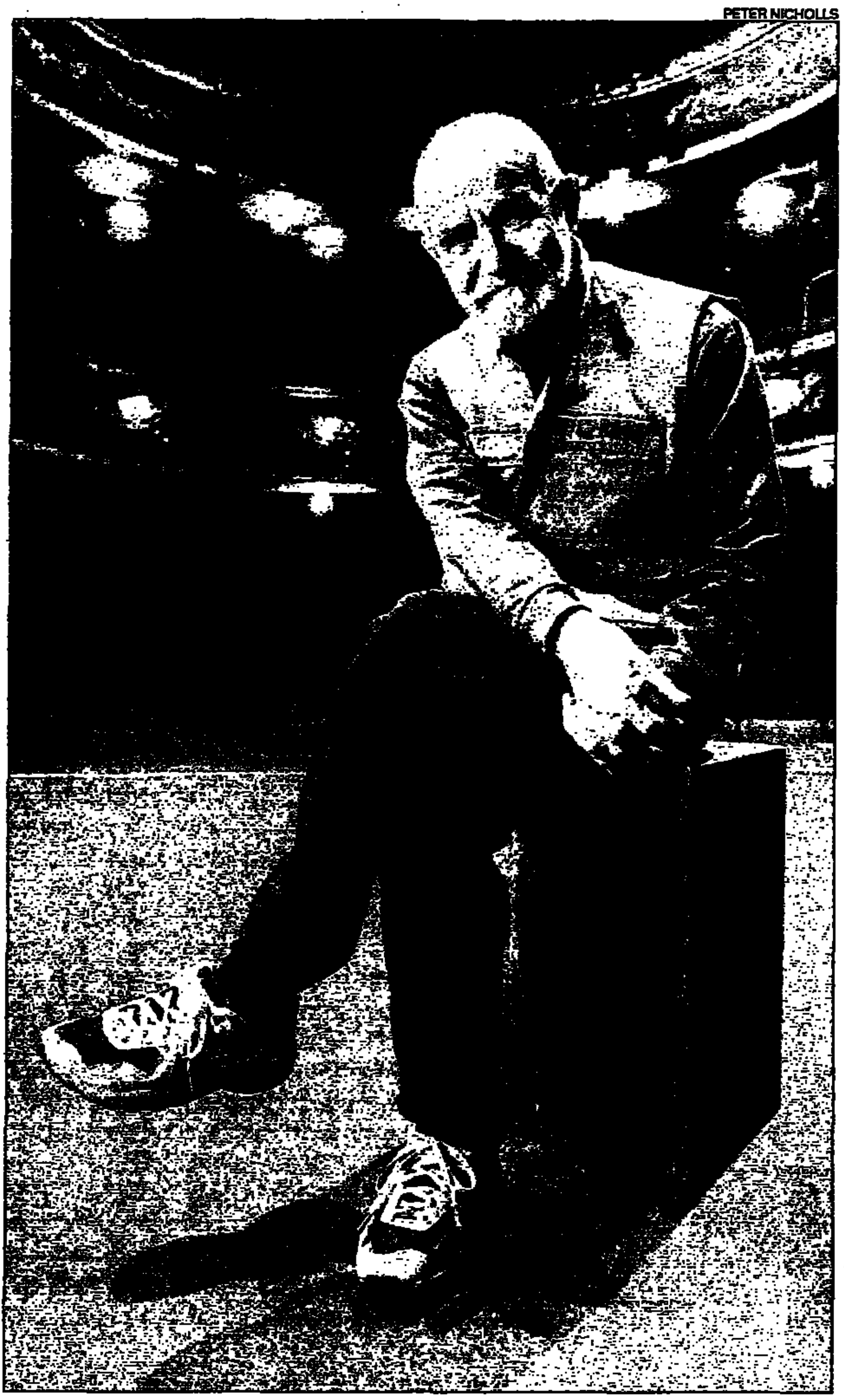
Fugard is eager, warm, relishing a good talk about South Africa, delighted to *know that I had been there* recently. *Valley Song*'s underlying theme is, of course, the emergence of the new, youthful, black state into an uncertain future. Fugard remains unsentimentally optimistic.

"For the majority the new South Africa looks and feels like the old one: squatter camps, unemployment, crime and violence are still there," he says. "Yet I am amazed at how complete the change has been *in terms of political structures*. On election day — voting took all day; there were three-mile queues — there was a sense of liberation, for whites included: they posted their guilt into the ballot box."

Buks cannot live without his land, his *akkers*; Fugard feels a similar pull to "acres of white paper". Sitting on the Royal Court stage where he has spent the morning as actor and director, he refers to *Fugard the writer in the third* person. "He needs a couple of hours a day. I can't give him that during rehearsals, but when I'm free during the day..." Then, he will carefully set out paper, pencil and Waterman's pen and dig deep into the South African earth once again.

● Valley Song *opens at the Royal Court, Sloane Square, London SW1 (0171-730 1745) tomorrow*

PETER NICHOLLS



Fugard wrote, directed, and plays two parts — one of them a Coloured man — in *Valley Song*

Passion hidden under the frolics

POP

The Mavericks
UEA, Norwich

THE Mavericks are fun. It is as simple as that. Whether they are singing ballads for the broken-hearted, or cranking out rock standards, there is an infectious good humour about the band. They chat happily to the audience, fool around in the encores (of which there are four) by swapping instruments, and give the impression they are loving every moment.

Not that they have much to complain about. Their latest album, *Music For All Occasions*, has been lavished with the praise that earned its predecessor, *What A Crying Shame*, a platinum disc and won two awards from the Academy of Country Music.

This success could, of course, be a sign that they have merely succumbed to the conservatism of the country establishment. They have, after all, forsaken their native Miami for Nashville. And there is no escaping their penchant for the sweet sounds of the Fifties and Sixties. There are, too, the cover versions: *Guantanamera*, *Jambalaya*. The Mavericks could be just another exercise in easy listening nonsense — country music's Mike Flowers, less mavericks and more mimics.

They could be, but they are not; the fun is anything but mindless.

Raul Malo, the band's singer and songwriter, sees to that. With his clothes and slicked-back hair, he resembles an American golf pro, but his *singing tells another story*. His voice has the pleading tones of the late Roy Orbison: the sound of someone who expects heartbreak and lives with regret.

Malo depends on the self-effacing support of the other Mavericks: Robert Reynolds (bass), Nick Kane (guitar) and Paul Deakin (drums), with the additional help of Jerry Dale McFadden on keyboards.

When he sings *Make The World Go Away*, Malo seems to discover hidden passions in the simple sentiments. During an extraordinary rendering of *Blue Moon*, he reinvents the song. When he stops, he chuckles: he's having fun too.

JOHN STREET

Riot of sound

Dreadzone
Fridge, Brixton

DREADZONE's London show was originally scheduled to take place last December but was cancelled in the wake of the Brixton riot. In the six weeks in between, the band have had a hit single with *Little Britain*, and so the night's atmosphere was charged with as much of a party spirit as if it had been the festive season.

The core of Dreadzone originally played together in Big Audio Dynamite, so it is not surprising that the two bands share the same kind of dub-beat pop roots. This time round, bassist Leo Williams has stepped up to frontman, while Greg Roberts continues to play drums and Tim Bran controls the beat systems.

Dressed in a long white duster-style coat with his bass slung and his super-long dreadlocks flailing out behind him, Williams looked like the perfect modern outlaw. He whirled around the stage, urging the crowd to dance along with him, and occasionally shared the microphone with Earl Sixteen, one of the guest vocalists on last year's *Second Light* album.

The band's dub-heavy sound lent itself to everything from the spaghetti western of the Morricone-sampled *The Good The Bad and The Dread* and the Irish sea-shanty *Captain Dread* to the defiantly straightforward anthem *Zion Youth*. When they played *Little Britain* it got the biggest cheer of the night, maybe not just because it is their hit single but also because it was a microcosm of their overall sound.

The band encored with the hard-edged *Fight The Power*, which was accompanied by footage of the chaos in Brixton last December and the 1992 American race riots. With the outside temperature below freezing, it was way too cold for a follow-up riot but, when the closing strains of *The Warning* came echoing out of the Fridge door, it served as a reminder that warmer, more volatile times lie ahead.

ANN SCANLON

CONCERTS: New talent unearthed in Explorations 96; Beethoven quest continues; Kremer goes his own way

Stars are born

LS/Knussen
Queen Elizabeth Hall

In Explorations 96 on Thursday evening, the London Sinfonietta presented another showcase of works by young composers, all receiving their world, British or London premieres. As on previous occasions, *Oliver* Knussen's quality control proved reliable.

Michael Gandolfi's programme note for *Design School* discussed the inspiration of the lithographs of M.C. Escher. Gandolfi admitted he did not find them greatly expressive, and his own composition was similarly motivated more by design principles than anything else.

Not too promising, it seemed, and indeed the opening was somewhat soulless. But the second movement contained an engaging passage of interlocking woodwinds and a prowling figure that seemed to be a representation of Escher's reptiles. But no, this was supposed to be the third movement, which to me appeared far more cerebral. *The fourth movement* was driven by powerful motor rhythms.

Having entirely failed to comprehend Gandolfi's illustrated note, with its references to Fibonacci series, "electron journeys" and alligators, I approached *Richard* Causton's *The Persistence of Memory* with more optimism. His down-to-earth but evocative note spoke of a strange personal experience undergone in India.

His deployment of conflicting tempos and rhythms made perfect sense in this context, with the notion of suspended time skilfully conveyed. The work's opening, with its haunting sonorities, also seized the attention. Causton, a 24-year-old British composer, is a name to watch.

There were imaginative sonorities, too, in *Of Tears & Saints*, by the Romanian-born Luminita Spinu. This piece had an arresting section of dense textures, with bells, tinkling celeste and various layers of strings and wind, while another section featured jagged chords against beating drums.

Karen Markham, who contributed a memorable piece called *Whirligig* at a previous Sinfonietta presentation, pursued the rotation theme once again, to excellent effect, in *The Wheel Has Turned*. This time the oscillation was less hectic, but it provided a unifying motivic principle that complemented the underlying theme of a spiritual quest.

The American composer Ron Ford, in *Inferno, I, 32*, offered the one piece I would not choose to hear again. Whether or not its deafening *thwacks on drums (fitted with* plywood inlays) were intended to be alienating, what followed was distinctly unappealing. One group consisted of viola (Paul Silverthorne), *bandoneon* (an Argentine accordion played by Per Arne Glorvigen) and soprano (Susan Narucki).

The soprano's words were entirely inaudible, because a second group, a 13-piece ensemble, was made to punctuate them loudly with offbeat jabbing dissonances. The third group was the percussionist with his plywood and mallets.

Inferno, I, 32 was tedious, rebarbative and incomprehensible. However, all praise to the Sinfonietta and its conductors, Knussen and Stefan Asbury.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Frantic to be heard

Emerson Quartet
Queen Elizabeth Hall

With Friday's and Sunday's concerts be*hind it, the Emerson* String Quartet is now halfway through its Beethoven cycle at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. In this chronological survey of the music, all six of the early Op 18 set and the three middle-period Razumovskys (Op 59) have now been explored and, from tonight, the players journey on towards the works of Beethoven's late period.

So far the Emersons have confirmed their reputation for gripping, illuminating performances, and they have attracted almost-full houses on the *South Bank — a testimony to* the grip of the music too, for this month has already seen a Beethoven series in London by the Lindsay Quartet.

Although the American group is dedicated to extending the repertory with frequent commissions, it has been playing the Beethoven quartets almost since its formation 20 years ago.

No doubt the players adjust their interpretations according to venue, but the Queen Elizabeth Hall — by any standards a large hall for such intimate, conversational music — does not seem best suited to their style.

Perhaps the aggressive, upfront and undeniably exciting approach they displayed here was designed to compen*sate those at the back, but* nearer the platform one missed the sheer beauty of tone for which the Emersons are renowned.

There is, of course, no single way of approaching this body of work, one of the greatest musical expressions of the human spirit. And although there is nothing wrong with underlining the radicality of *pieces that were startling in* their day, some of the Emersons' fast movements sounded fraught and fragmented.

One hesitates to describe as superficial anything such thoughtful, serious-minded musicians do, but while admiring the players' unanimity of attack — they listen intently to each other — it was hard to find the longer musical arguments of the outer movements really involving. That said, the whirling finale to Op 59 No 3 which brought Sunday's concert to a close was *exhilarating*.

It is the slow movements that will linger in the memory. Those in the Op 18 set took on a special nobility, with playing of great warmth underlining the hymn-like simplicity of the Adagio in No 2 and the shadowy B-flat minor episode in the second movement of No 6. The Emersons dug deep into the emotions of Op 59 No 2 to give a performance of sublime intensity.

Although Beethoven's world was shattered by the onset of his deafness during the few years that separate Op 18 and Op 59, there is humour in all these works. The Emersons were playful in the variations of Op 18 No 5, and caught the jauntiness of the "Thème Russe" in the second Razumovsky quartet.

The way in which they evoked the discreet Russianness of the third Razumovsky, with David Finckel's plucked cello suggesting a balalaika, was entertaining and only natural from a quartet that plays with such obvious and engaging enjoyment.

JOHN ALLISON

Imperfect, but at least he's different

Philharmonia/Dohnányi
Festival Hall

CALL him quirky, call him inspired: the *Latvian violinst* Gidon Kremer is never boring. He has twice the repertoire of most top fiddlers, which is admirable. But when he returns to one of the prize blooms in the violinist's garden, you do sometimes wonder if he has spent too long hacking through the wild grass.

Thus it was with a performance of the *Brahms Concerto on* Saturday that was brilliant and sloppy in roughly equal proportions. Tuning was often far from sweet; the tone was sometimes scratchy; the phrasing jerky and anti-romantic. As for the cadenza, Kremer conjured up a bizarre effort that featured a swelling and falling timpani roll that seemed more *appropriate to the villain's* entrance in a Victorian melodrama.

Yet he passed the one essential test of performance: he held the attention. His performance was urgent, as tightly strung as an archer's bow, and utterly original. That's worth a lot. If you just want the notes perfectly played, any number of teenage virtuosos can oblige.

Sticking close to Kremer in maverick mood cannot be easy, but Christoph von Dohnányi and the Philharmonia made a gallant fist of it (with some especially lustrous oboe-playing from John Anderson). That was no surprise; earlier the orchestra and its principal guest conductor had given a performance of Schumann's Second Symphony that pulsated with energy and was cogent from first note to last.

Dohnányi, the maestro of Cleveland, has a reputation for unflinching seriousness, and there was certainly nothing trivial about his reading of Schumann's most Beethoven-like — and in some ways most tragic — *symphony*. A sense of epic struggle was present from the outset, and in the sublime slow movement this was transfigured into intense anguish.

The result, however, was the opposite of dour. Dohnányi controlled the orchestral texture superbly, and was able to push the scherzo and finale along at speed with no loss of clarity or tension.

The Schumann compensated for a brave but uncomfortable start to the concert. A performance of Mahler's string-orchestra transcription of Beethoven's String Quartet, Op 95, only confirmed how right Beethoven was to conceive this work for four players in the first place.

RICHARD MORRISON

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■ VISUAL ART 1

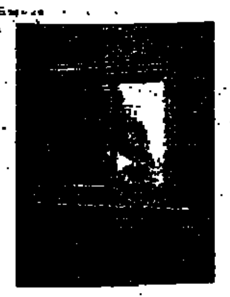
Money is the root of all evil? That is the message of Bill Woodrow's Tate exhibition

■ VISUAL ART 2

. . . and there is scarcely more comfort in the abrasive American art on show at the Saatchi Gallery

■ VISUAL ART 3

From wax to bronze: Maggi Hambling explains the method behind her new sculptures



■ VISUAL ART 4

Something strange on the mantelpiece: Jo Stockham's memory figures come to the Adam Gallery

VISUAL ART: **Richard Cork** on Bill Woodrow's sardonic sculptures at the Tate and young Americans at the Saatchi

Bronze rebuke to our material age

Invited to fill the awesome vastness of the Duveen Galleries at the Tate, Bill Woodrow might easily have felt daunted. Stretching like a spine through the centre of the building, these gaunt and lofty neo-classical spaces could diminish the work displayed there. But Woodrow takes on the challenge with gusto. Many of his recent bronzes are grand and flamboyant enough to demand ample surroundings. They look like monuments waiting for permanent public locations, and the Duveen's immensity provides them with an ideal showcase.

To anyone familiar with Woodrow's earlier work, these titans may seem shocking. After all, he made his reputation in the early 1980s by deftly manipulating discarded objects, scavenged from skips and dumps. Woodrow's name became synonymous with battered twin-tubs, ironing boards and car doors, presented in all their rusty rawness. Although juxtaposed with invented forms, made by Woodrow from metal torn out of the found objects, they still reeked of dereliction and urban decay.

At first glance, the work at the Tate amounts to a volte-face. Bronze and gold leaf proliferate throughout the show, suggesting that Woodrow has reneged on his earlier position and succumbed to the most traditional — and expensive — of sculptural materials. Are we witnessing, then, the decline of a successful middle-aged artist, indulging in luxurious allure and betraying his former toughness?

Little time is needed to scotch such suspicions. Soon after we enter the Tate, a sculpture called *Moneyhead* proves that Woodrow has not lost his subversive edge. Carved from stone in a rough yet conventional way, the head lies on the floor like a fragment from an antique statue. But the man's imperious features are studded with outsize bronze coins, each one lodged like half-embedded shrapnel in his flesh. He appears to have been killed by money, and sets the tone for an exhibition riddled with scathing references to a civilisation destroyed by the insane pursuit of material gain.

Woodrow has long been obsessed by the *Ship of Fools*, a mythical vessel cluttered with demented travellers consumed by greed. A couple of the most imposing exhibits are supposed to have been dredged from the *Ship*'s wreckage, and they are filled with a sense of mournful futility. One, a twisted anchor, terminates in prongs piercing open books. The other, a life-size cannon, mimics the form taken by monuments celebrating military prowess and imperial gain.

But Woodrow arouses expectations only to flout them. The cannon turns out to be mounted on a prison door, and the contorted figure of an accordion player seems to lie underneath. Far from merely trumpeting martial might, the cannon becomes a symbol of oppression and confinement.

Casting such a work in bronze *takes on an ironic meaning*. And the concentration on expensive materials seems even more paradoxical when we approach the most elaborate sculpture on view: *In Awe of the Pawnbroker*. Stretching down the last gallery, and joined to a steel chain that ends up tied around a thick Duveen column, five gold-coloured bronze rings nestle on tasselled cushions. They are big enough to serve as plinths for the tableaux they support. The pawnbroker's triple orbs can be found on each plinth, and Woodrow uses them to tell a story about the role played by pawnshops through history.

The broker himself is a spindly figure, his body made up of forks and spoons. He struggles to retain his balance on a rolling drum studded with coins. But the banner undulating from a staff clasped in his right hand swirls with energy, and his other hand holds up his gleaming orbs with perverse pride.

Debt-ridden and in thrall to the dubious power of money-lenders, the world satirised by Woodrow seems scarcely capable of tottering to the century's end. This is a mordant and, at times, openly apocalyptic show, using its references to the grandiloquent age of monumental sculpture only in order to pinpoint bankruptcy and moral negation.

Bronze is deployed as a means of intensifying the mood of universal absurdity, nowhere more crazily than in the tower installed at the exhibition's centre. Woodrow's feeling for the delirium of modern life reaches its apogee in this trussed and glinting folly. Exploding at its apex in a tangle of sliced ropes and animal mutation, this rebarbative new sculpture offers, in its terse two-word title, a snub to anyone in search of a reason for the madness: *God Knows*.

Scant comfort can be found at the Saatchi Gallery, where four young American artists are given plenty of space to assert themselves. Even so, visitors could easily miss Gregory Green's exhibit in the first room. Still dominated by John Frankland's lustrous polythene lift, installed there last year, this foyer-like space now contains a nondescript suitcase as well.

It stands next to one of the lift doors, as if left there by accident. But Green calls this deceptively mundane object *Suitcase Bomb*, and further into the exhibition he shows us what it might contain.

We are invited, via a sequence of beckoning signs, to penetrate a storage area never normally on public view. Here, Green presents us with a room where suitcases play only a small part in a chaos of packing-cases, straw, power-tools, telephones, stained towels, clocks and other, less readily identifiable appliances. Despite the disorder, the claustrophobic chamber testifies to an intense level of activity. And as we pick our way gingerly through the detritus, the overall purpose becomes clear.

A book of biblical proportions lies open, its pages carved out to make space for a wired mechanism within. Other, equally ominous components are detectable on work benches nearby. Lit by torches dangling from the wall, and often half-buried by an accumulation of assorted equipment, these sinister devices clearly have a purpose. Green cleverly re-creates the peculiar mixture of messiness and cold precision in this deserted bomb kitchen.

The terrorists themselves are nowhere to be seen, but their obsessive tenacity is disclosed wherever we look. Have they been disturbed by an advance warning and decided to run? Or are they out on a job, armed with one of the instruments assembled in this chilling interior? Green does not explain: but by calling his intricately composed installation *Work Station 5 (London)*, he implies that it belongs to an international network of similarly makeshift factories.

In another room, empty save for a spotlit object in the middle of the floor, he also ensures that we do not underestimate the destructive potential involved. The object's title, *Nuclear Device*, is not intended as a joke. It indicates, with terrifying simplicity, that a bomb capable of unleashing measureless annihilation looks like a plastic globe attached to a tangle of wires. Anyone with access to plutonium might, apparently, learn how to construct such an obscene instrument.

That is why Green's work, also on view in a one-man show at the Cabinet Gallery in Coldharbour Lane, is so unnerving. His bombs and remote-controlled incendiary devices all seem to have been made from modest resources, thereby underlining the threat posed by the ever-increasing ease of their manufacture.

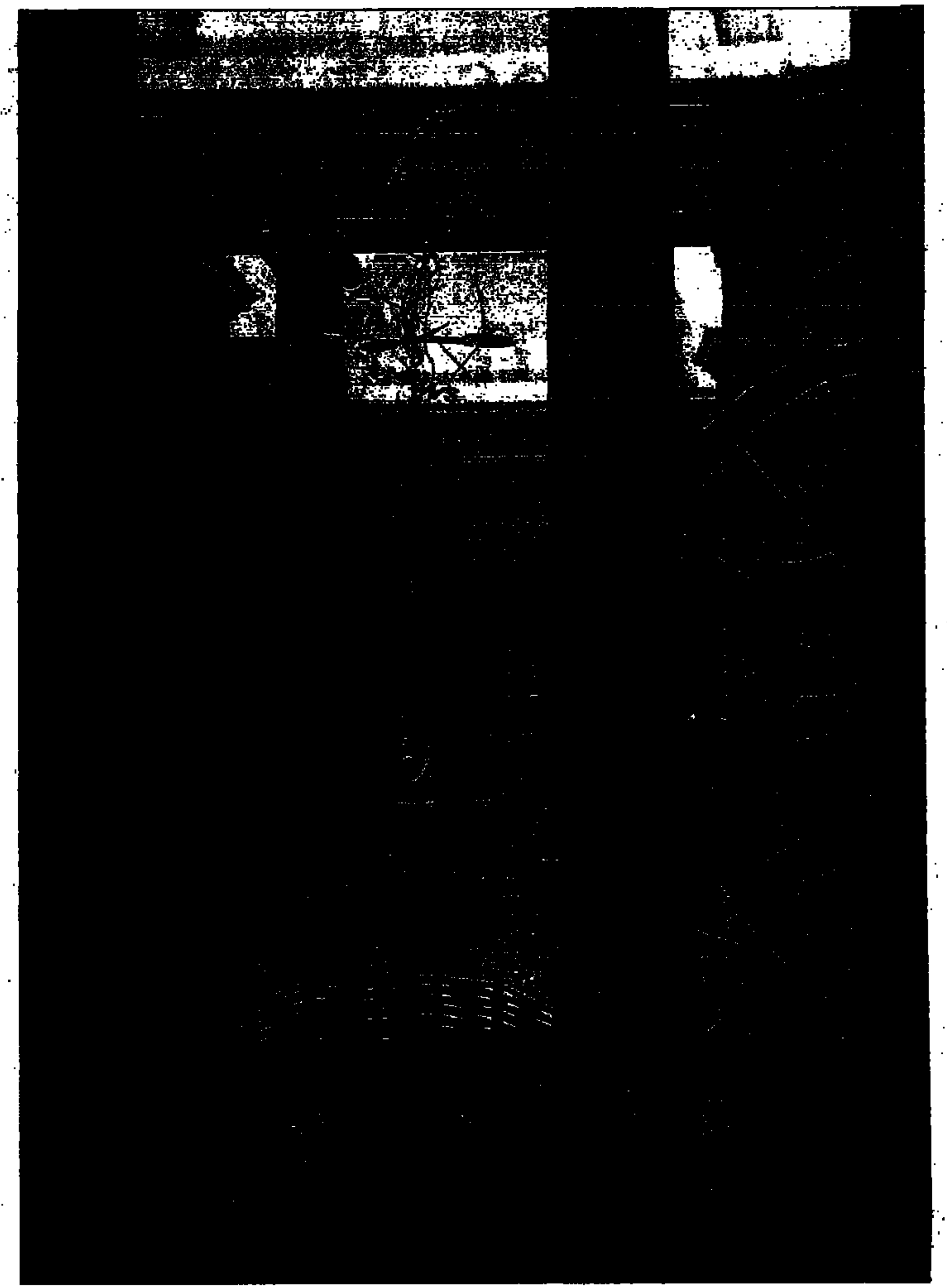
The implications of Green's meticulous, matter-of-fact art overshadow everything else in the Saatchi show. He makes Charles Long, fascinated by the eccentric shapes of popcorn, thrown-away plastic and half-eaten rolls, seem playful to a fault. But Sean Landers conveys a more obsessive, troubled vision. Sometimes he confines himself to long, rambling lines of confessional writing, filling large canvases with frustrated, laconic observations about daily existence. Elsewhere he combines words with painted images of an empty sea, or shows himself on video stripping and posing indolently as a narcissistic, updated version of a High Renaissance or Baroque sculpture.

> ❛ The world satirised by Woodrow is in thrall to money-lenders ❜

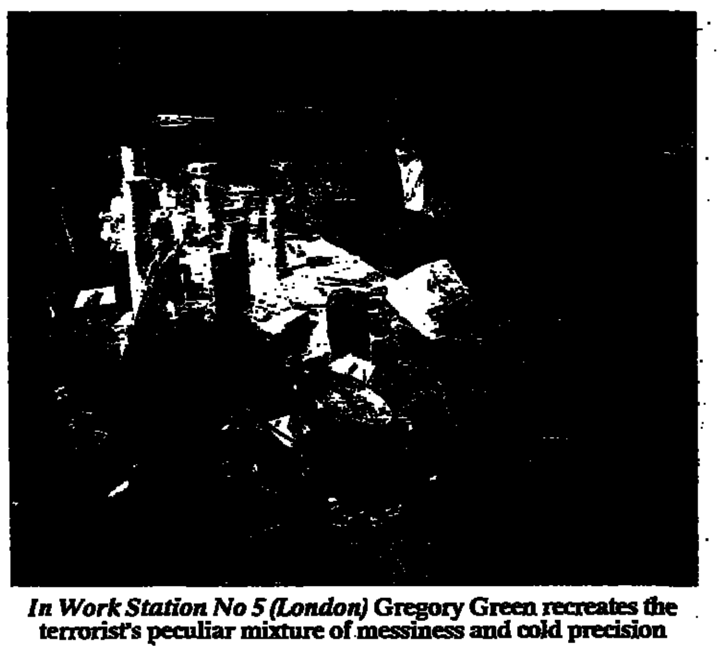
Ultimately, though, Landers appears wayward when set beside Janine Antoni's fiercely focused sculpture. In a multipart work called *Gnaw*, she shows how boulder-like lumps of chocolate and lard served as the raw material for the production of, respectively, heart-shaped sweet packages and bright red lipstick. Antoni herself spent weeks gnawing away at the lumps, spitting out the pieces and preserving them.

Then the bitten-away cubes were shown on marble pallets, contrasting in their elemental roughness with the glossily packaged lipsticks displayed in mirrored showcases. The gulf between the desperate, nauseating urgency of the gnawing and the slickness of the cosmetic installation says a great deal about the difference between a woman's compulsive emotional needs and the bland, commercialised exploitation of feminine allure.

● Bill Woodrow *at the Tate Gallery, Millbank, London, SW1 (0171-887 8000) until April 28;* Young Americans *at the Saatchi Gallery, 98a Boundary Road, London, NW8 (0171-328 8299) until March 3;* Gregory Green *at the Cabinet Gallery, 8 Clifton Mansions, 429 Coldharbour Lane SW9 (0171-274 4252) until Feb 3*



Woodrow's show refers to a grandiloquent age only to pinpoint bankruptcy and moral negation



In Work Station No 5 (London) Gregory Green recreates the terrorist's peculiar mixture of messiness and cold precision

[illegible]

Jo Stockham has made a delicate arrangement over the fireplace in each of the front rooms of the tiny, domestic Adam Gallery. Outlines of people bowling, batting, dancing, pushing and sitting have been cut from newspapers and turned face to the wall on the end of thin wooden sticks. Another group made up of individual figures, actors in some long forgotten news story or narrative, is displayed facing the street, like a discreet advertisment for puppet theatre or toy museum. In the back room of the gallery, a small snapshot photograph showing a hand placed across a shoulder is reflected back into a mirror that radiates out from the corner. The mirror carries the outline of a hand, frosted or smeared like frozen breath. Other small photographs, too, have been altered. By greasing, rubbing and sanding the surface of these "ordinary" pictures, Stockham manages to turn all sorts of visual memories and records into fragile yet unprecious objects.

Adam Gallery, 62 Walcot Square, London SE11, (0171-582 1260) to Feb 4

☐ Peter Doig's paintings are exciting enough when encountered for the first time, but an awareness of their history reveals how they have changed over time. Doig seems much less intent now on picturing a subject head-on. Instead, in his recent pictures of ski slopes and figures skiing, he creates a sense of freefall through space. Trees are sometimes red, built up almost pointillistically across the canvas: skies are thin veils of diffused pink, yellow and even blue. These paintings are big enough for the artist as well as the viewer to lose himself in. There is a bracing, glowing, sporty quality to these paintings. They involve less layering of paint, less surface interference. After the backyards, front porches and sulphuric, swampy colonial strangeness of Doig's earlier work, the air has become sweeter now, as the virtuoso Canadian artist struggles to release himself from the shackles of those early associations.

Victoria Miro Gallery, 21 Cork Street, London W1 (0171-734 5082) to March 8

☐ Downstairs at the Anna Bornholt Gallery, Yvonne Hindle's paintings have the quality of human or animal hair, groomed and combed across the surface in a single sweep to sparkle in the light. Ana Padovani embroiders objects and gives them the seriously luxurious air of prayer cushions in some private Neo-Classical chapel. Upstairs, Gill Houghton shows a photograph with a pile of cut hair fallen to the floor; Paul Whittaker places a smoothly finished shelf high up on the wall, while Henry Rogers, the organiser, shows a painting stretched across both sides of two false walls, with a gap in between. Though there is no obvious connection between the work of the five artists, this mixed show, called *Relatives*, nevertheless manages to set up some interesting associations and relationships.

Anna Bornholt Gallery, 3-5 Weighhouse Street, London W1 (0171-499 6114) until February 16

SACHA CRADDOCK

Laughing at death in 3-D

Maggi Hambling may have swapped paint for bronze, but her spirit remains the same

Three years ago Maggi Hambling, an artist previously known for her powerfully expressive paintings, turned to sculpture for the first time. The images in her paintings, she felt, were becoming increasingly like objects in space; she was even using her hands to apply the paint. Her clay sculptures of 1993, with their vivid colours and rearing planes, seemed a natural development of her work in oils.

But drawing has always been central to Hambling's work, and it is from this that her first collection of bronzes springs. It was working in wax that first caught her imagination. "It has all the immediacy and directness of drawing," she says, "and to be able to work in three dimensions is very exciting."

Spreading sand on a table, she draws quickly and incisively with a finger, and fills the indented shape with molten wax. When it cools this image can be picked up, melded with other images, built up into more complicated forms and cast in bronze.

"Some of the sculptures in this show — such as *Portrait of My Father* — are like earlier drawings," Hambling says. "But now they are moving in space and, because I use the lost wax method of casting, each piece has the same uniqueness as a drawing. Everything is individual — a sort of experiment. Things just happen."

Perhaps it is this sense of chance — an impetuosity carried over from her painting — that gives energy to her new work. Only two casts have been made, so that an image can be used repeatedly, and these are of things which she came across by accident.

War Coffin (1994), part of Maggi Hambling's new show

One is a piece of a burnt-out car engine which she found several years ago in a country lane. To Hambling it looked like a head thrown back in laughter — "like a shape from one of my early laugh paintings," she says. The other is of a stone she stumbled across in a field — a stone which, to her imaginative eye, also resembles a head.

It is this idea of contingency, of a randomness caught for a moment within some sort of structure, which seems to lie at the heart of Hambling's work. "I wanted to explore the fragility of the balance between life and death," she says. "The idea that nothing is planned and permanent, that we are only passing through … I don't suppose anyone can get to my age [she is in her 50s] without thinking about death," she adds with characteristic pragmatism.

Influenced by her recent trips to Egypt and Mexico, both countries in which an elaborate death culture has evolved, Hambling turns to the image of the coffin. The repeated patterns of her "heads" are interlinked by slender traceries — gaunt frameworks in which the bronze is left rough and unpatinated. Forms are suspended in space, swinging gently as the pieces rock to and fro on their slender struts.

Through her evocations of balance and suspension, Hambling opens up the idea of potentiality. Her coffins could equally be the fragile frameworks of something half built as the corroding skeletons of the past. "These sculptures are not supposed to be pessimistic," she explains. "The coffins are like vehicles — chariots or boats perhaps — with air drifting through them. The dead people are not shut up, not trapped. I am open to any possibility, to ideas of immortality, of any sort of life after death."

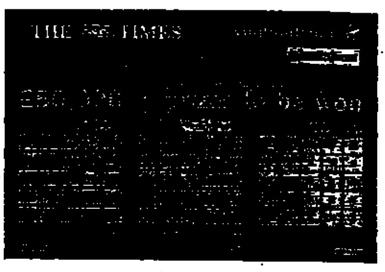
Works such as her *Coffin Struck by Lightning*, in which the hair on the head stands up like a star in electrified spikes, or her *Coffin for Max Wall*, in which the comic's inverted figure dangles suspended "as though dancing upside down for all eternity", both show this. Hambling brings a liveliness, an almost impish *jeu d'esprit*, to her work.

Influenced by seeing Wall, an old friend, playing Vladimir in *Waiting for Godot*, and by what she describes as the "jolliness" of a Mexican attitude to death, with its gaily painted *memento mori*, she brings a Beckettian humour to her theme. Two sculptures entitled *After Mexico* are of skulls with protruding tongues, seemingly caught in animated conversation. The ribbled edges of the bronze resonate lightly to the touch. Other pieces jangle and chime as they sway.

"It was chance again," Hambling says. "Modelling in wax, I didn't think about sound. But when cast in bronze, my sculptures seem to speak for themselves. Metal clinks against metal as they move and, just when you think they are about to stop talking, they start all over again."

RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON

● Maggi Hambling: Sculpture in Bronze and New Monotypes *at Marlborough Fine Art, 6 Albermarle Street, London W1 (0171-629 5161), tomorrow to Mar 2*



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■ THEATRE 1

A study in disintegration: the life of the pianist John Ogdon is staged in *Virtuoso*

■ THEATRE 2

Eighty minutes of travestied Lorca is a bit much, even for the London Mime Festival

THE TIMES ARTS

■ CHOICE 1

Joseph Fiennes and Co recreate *Les Enfants du Paradis* on stage

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Barbican

■ CHOICE 2

Michael Nyman gives a concert performance of his new opera

VENUE: Tonight at the Festival Hall

How a genius turned to discord

THEATRE

Virtuoso
Wolsey, Ipswich

When Oliver Ford Davies played the vicar at the centre of David Hare's *Racing Demon*, the impression was of a thin, troubled man. But one of the signs of a major actor is a gift for physical transformation. Goliaths shrink into Davids, Aguecheeks expand into Bottoms or, as here, the Rev Espy becomes a stout, anguished pianist. Somehow Davies persuades you that his bunched, bumpy face actually fits those hunched, heavy shoulders and that, yes, the figure lumbering round the stage, his shaving-brush beard at 90 degrees to his chin, really is John Ogdon.

William Humble's tale of Ogdon's battle with madness gives Davies the chance to embody plenty of emotions, from rage to despair to meek, baffled resignation. The problem is a play whose attempts to dramatise both inner feeling and outside event, while bold, can seem awkward and overwrought. Moreover, those in search of penetrating analysis, resonant ideas, or dialogue that rises strongly to the emotional occasion are likely to feel rather sporadically rewarded.

The play opens with Ogdon tentatively tinkling away on a hospital piano, then cuts back to 1962, the year he won the Tchaikovsky Prize. Although he disconcerts his agent by preferring milk-bars to restaurants and comparing the Beatles to Mozart, all is triumphant activity. "There's never been a pianist who can sightread like John, it's incredible," says a composer in one of several lines that sound more informative than real.

But the pressures on him intensify. His wife pushes him to buy a posh London house, the composer nags at him for not practising his new concerto, an envious friend makes him feel guilty for charging expenses for a charity recital. Suddenly John Grillo, performing the last of these, transmutes into Ogdon's hallucination of his own mad father. This preposterous figure stalks the set — a garish mix of purple, blue and orange surfaces — gleefully blowing a trombone and wreaking emotional ruin.

What finally turned Ogdon into a violent, suicidal mess? Humble provides enough evidence — awful father, engulfing mother, accusing brother who died young, his own overweening feelings of responsibility and fear of failing others — to convince you he cannot simply have inherited a bad paternal gene. Yet not until he is erratically teaching music in Indiana does a shrink come out with "Are you scared of people rejecting you?" and get the slow, surprised answer "You may be right". Did it really take the professionals so long to reach this insight, and does Humble not see how banal it seems?

Another worry is that, although general ideas occasionally surface (is it better to be a tormented genius or a happy nonentity?), the play remains a feverish case study. Still another is that the ending is more upbeat than the facts of Ogdon's premature end allow.

It is the principal members of Caroline Smith's somewhat uneven cast who mainly justify the evening: Diane Fletcher, who brings a redeeming humanity to the wife who chillingly remarks that she married a great pianist "and if he can't even play the piano, what's left?", and Ford Davies himself — a great, stricken ox blinking at the abattoir of his own mind.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Diane Fletcher and Oliver Ford Davies as callous wife and tortured genius in *Virtuoso*, William Humble's patchy story of the life of John Ogdon

Send off the clowns

House of Bernarda Alba
Purcell Room

SOMETIMES a cocky ragamuffin inside me has wanted to stick out his tongue at the solemn sufferings of Lorca's Castilian rustics and Granadine spinsters. But never did I expect to see one of his tragedies performed by clowns.

The production comes to us, of course, courtesy of the London International Mime Festival. The company is Theatre Manjana, a group of Swedish female clowns directed by Nola Rae. They have sent me back to the original Lorca with heightened respect — but this is a backhanded compliment. However much my ragamuffin may have wanted one of Bernarda's five unmarried daughters to shove a banana-skin in her path, it was only my longing to see a moment's successful rebellion. Eighty minutes of distortion is something else.

In the original play, the newly widowed and poisonously proud Bernarda imposes eight years' mourning upon her daughters because this has always been her family's custom. The youngest daughter disobeys, enjoys the handsome Pepe who is due to marry the eldest, then hangs herself when she believes her mother has shot him. For everyone left in the house, life, or death-in-life, will go grimly on.

The dreadful, stupid repressions unfold with a kind of grandeur, none of which survives an assault by red noses. Some attempt is made to suggest the imprisoning fastness of the house by miming the closing of shutters and the drawing of bolts, but this is undercut by the ease with which the daughters steal from room to room after nightfall while their mother, played by Renée Samuelsson, sits slumped on a chair.

The chains that bind them, incidentally, are shown for real in this version, tangling the characters up something chronic, but from start to finish the purpose of the enterprise is unclear. The clowning does not work as an alternative route into the story, nor does it creatively deconstruct the mythic elements to suggest what might have been churning around in Lorca's mind at the time.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Sanity on spin cycle

The People Show 101
BAC, Battersea

WE MIGHT be in a laundromat in space. Then again, it could be a subterranean asylum for mad scientists. An old industrial washing machine, featuring mysterious pressure gauges, confronts us. The drum is spinning behind its porthole. A steel ladder is glimpsed, presumably leading to other decks. Whisked by on a rotating clothes rail is a ghostly, growing crowd of laundered shirts, nighties and lab coats.

Next the whole contraption rolls around, revealing a cranky lab-cum-drycleaners in which white-wellied staff, endlessly spraying and ironing, run through chemistry-based catechisms (perversely responding to the answers with the questions). They repeatedly chant: "There are vistas never dreamt of, there are glories never known."

Well, I was not much the wiser by the end of The People Show's 101st experimental piece, a low in this year's mime festival. This long-established avant-garde company has churned out a scrappy piece, abstrusely depicting religious cults. The men in the strange laboratory confess to kinky fantasies. Women get inexplicably pregnant. Both sexes are symbolically stained, slipping into exotically coloured robes. They commit suicide or are initiated into another life, exiting through the washing machine's dark mouth and re-entering, in white, down a funnel.

The action is littered with iconographic images of birth, death, purification. A billowed sheet settles on the head of an instant Madonna. Shorn Mark Whitelaw, entwined in silk, "floats" on someone's back.

The set is fun, the occasional image striking. Meanwhile, however, the archetypal images amass but go nowhere, the characters hardly develop and the acting is wobbly with the exception of naively smiling, cracked Christine Entwisle. When the sound effects, a mess of galactic crackles, chopper blades and the *Moonlight Sonata*, obscure the dialogue, at least you can be certain you are not missing much.

KATE BASSETT

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

LES ENFANTS DU PARADIS Opening night for Helen McCrory, Joseph Fiennes, Rupert Graves and James Purefoy, playing the passionate lovers, of theatre and one another, in Simon Callow's production of the classic French film.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7pm. In rep ◩

NYMAN'S BACK: Michael Nyman returns, with full band in tow, for the UK premiere of another of his Peter Greenaway film scores. Tonight's performance, *Noises, Sounds & Sweet Airs*, is an opera based on music first written for *Prospero's Books*, Greenaway's fantasy on Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Singers Catherine Bott, Hilary Summers and Christopher Gillet join in the unmistakable Nyman sound.
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 8pm ◩

SAMSON ET DALILA Covent Garden's choice of revival tonight — Elijah Moshinsky's production of Saint-Saëns's grand biblical opera — should be absolutely top-notch. Jacques Delacôte conducts, with sumptuous designs by Sidney Nolan and David Bintley's choreography. The Greek mezzo Markella Hatziano sings the temptress and José Cura is the prophet.
Royal Opera House, Bow Street, WC2 (0171-304 4000). Tonight, then Feb 2, 5, 10 and 15 ◩

ELSEWHERE

BRIGHTON Ayckbourn's comic **Confusions** starts a national tour this week, with Vincent Brimble, Rula Lenska, Joanna Myers, Graham Seed and Christopher Timothy taking the leads for more vintage village mayhem.
Theatre Royal, New Road (01273 328488). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 2.30pm and Sat, 4pm.

COVENTRY First night of previews for another tribute musical, this time the turbulent life of Jerry Lee Lewis — but the signs are that **Whole Lotta Shakin'** will be sharper and better than most. Billy Geraghty takes the lead, Simon Usher directs.
Belgrade, Belgrade Square (01203 256431). Previews tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm, opens Thurs, all at 7.30pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat 8pm.

MANCHESTER David Yarrey, marvellous as the hypochondriac gag-writer in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, plays the maniacal hero in Dario Fo's **Accidental Death of an Anarchist**. Directed by Benjamin Twist.
Contact, Oxford Road (0161-274 4400). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Feb 7, 1.30pm. Until Feb 17 ◩

PRESTON. London's excellent children's Unicorn Arts Theatre takes its version of **The Magic Flute** on the road: fast, funny and set among the New York skyscrapers. The music is adapted by Joanna MacGregor, suitable for ages seven and up.
Charter, Lancaster Road (01772 258858). Today-Thurs, 2pm, Fri 10.30am, Sat 7.30pm ◩

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Diaghilev: Creator of the Ballets Russes (0171-638 4141) **British Museum**: Ohyo and Kyoto paintings (0171-636 1555) **National Gallery**: the NG in World War II (0171-747 2885) **National Portrait Gallery**: Lure of the Limelight: James Abbe Photographs (0171-306 0055) **Serpentine**: Jana Sterbak: Velleitas (0171-723 9072) **V & A**: Jain Art from India (0171-938 8500) **Whitechapel**: Emil Nolde (0171-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **COMIC CUTS** Backstage at the Leeds Empire in 1951: times are changing as old-style Variety is menaced by new, young pop singers. Jack Shepherd's play catches the moment of change, directed by Jonathan Church.
Lyric Studio, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4.30pm

☐ **COMMUNICATING DOORS** Angela Thorne reopens Ayckbourn's ingenious time-travel play, fleeing from a vengeful enemy via the doors of a hotel that take her forward and back a couple of decades.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm ◩

☐ **THE FIELDS OF AMBROSIA**: American musical with book and lyrics by Joel Higgins, who also stars as a state executioner who falls in love with the woman set to be his next "client". Music by Martin Silvestri. One US reviewer called it "original, compelling and fun".
Aldwych, Strand, WC2 (0171-416 6048). Previews tonight, 7.45pm; opens tomorrow, 7pm.

◩ **ERASMUS MONTANUS** Award-winning production of Holberg's satiric view of rustic Denmark by the Greenwich Studio Theatre (in exile). Part of the "I Wish I'd Seen That" season. Recommended.

BAC, Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Previews tonight and opens tomorrow, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7.30pm, Sun, 5.30pm ◩

☐ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND**. Triumphant return for Peter Hall's production of Wilde's drama of political sleaze and scandal. The star cast includes Martin Shaw, Anna Carteret, Penny Downie.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm ◩

◩ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS** Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with Nicholas Woodeson as the all-knowing inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan Engel as the pillars of society.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5pm

☐ **MACK AND MABEL**. Jerry Herman's musical set in early Hollywood. Fine songs, though a troublesome book. Starring Howard McGillin and a delightful Caroline O'Connor.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

■ **SWEETHEART** Opening night for this new play by Nick Rosso, author of the acclaimed *Peaches*. Joe Duttine in the title role of the much-loved but feckless and usually skint Charlie.
Upstairs, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Tonight, 7pm, Jan 31, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Feb 6, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

☐ **TWO TRAINS RUNNING** Jenny Jules, Tony Armatrading, George Harris among the strong cast for the latest of August Wilson's decalogue of plays about 20th-century black Americans. Set in 1969 Pittsburgh, in a restaurant due to be demolished. Paulette Randall directs.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Feb 8 and 14, 2pm, Sat, 4pm ◩

◩ **VOLPONE**: Michael Gambon subtle and fascinating in the title role, ably supported by Simon Russell Beale as his wily sidekick.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm ◩

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

THE FLOWER OF MY SECRET (15) Crisis point for a woman writer of romantic fiction. Surprisingly sober and tender drama from Pedro Almodóvar. With Marisa Paredes.
Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) **Gate** ◩ (0171-727 4043) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366)

◆ **HEAT** (15): LA detective Al Pacino tries to catch Robert De Niro's crooks. Excellent epic crime drama from writer-director, Michael Mann.
Clapham Picture (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◩ (0171-434 0031) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ◩ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◩ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE INNOCENT SLEEP** (15): Rupert Graves sees a murder he shouldn't. Creaky British thriller, with Michael Gambon. Director, Scott Michell.
MGMs: Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Trocadero** ◩ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0171-586 3057) **UCI Whiteleys** ◩ (0171-792 3332)

MADAGASCAR SKIN: Odd behaviour on a beach. Saltborn British feature from Chris Newby, with John Hannah and Bernard Hill.
ICA ◩ (0171-930 3647)

THE MOST DESIRED MAN (18). Broad, mostly pleasant German comedy about sexual identity. Director, Sönke Wortmann.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096)

Piccadilly (0171-437 3561) **Swiss Centre** (0171-439 4470) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148)

◆ **SABRINA** (PG) Businessman Harrison Ford falls for the chauffeur's daughter, Julia Ormond. Updated Cinderella story just does not work. Director, Sydney Pollack.
Empire ◩ (0171-437 1234) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** ◩ (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◩ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◩ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **WAITING TO EXHALE** (15). Crude comedy-drama about black women's men problems. With Whitney Houston, Angela Bassett; director, Forest Whitaker.
MGMs: Fulham Road ◩ (0171-370 2636) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Trocadero** ◩ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◩ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◩ (0171-437 4343)

CURRENT

◆ **BABE** (U) Glorious, vivacious family film about a sheep-herding pig, with a cast of talking animals.
Empire (0171-437 1234) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◩ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234) **UCI Whiteleys** ◩ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **DEVIL IN A BLUE DRESS** (15) Splendidly atmospheric thriller with Denzel Washington as the ordinary Joe in late 1940s Los Angeles stumbling over corpses, police and corruption. From Walter Mosley's novel.
Curzon West End (0171-369 1722) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

◆ **GOLDENEYE** (12) Pierce Brosnan twinkles as the new James Bond. A rip-roaring thriller with a sense of humour; with Sean Bean.
Empire (0171-437 1234) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** ◩ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914 098) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234)

LEAVING LAS VEGAS (18) Nicolas Cage drinks himself to death. Striking, intimate drama from director Mike Figgis. With Elisabeth Shue.
Barbican ◩ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Swiss Centre** (0171-439 4470) **Coronet** ◩ (0171-727 6705) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Warner** ◩ (0171-437 4343)

THE UNDERNEATH (15) The classic 1940s thriller *Criss Cross* remade as a stylish puzzle by director Steven Soderbergh. With Peter Gallagher.
Plaza (0171-437 1234)

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"BREATHTAKING" Independent
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COMEDY BO & cc 0171 369 1731 cc 0171 420 0000 (no bkg fee)
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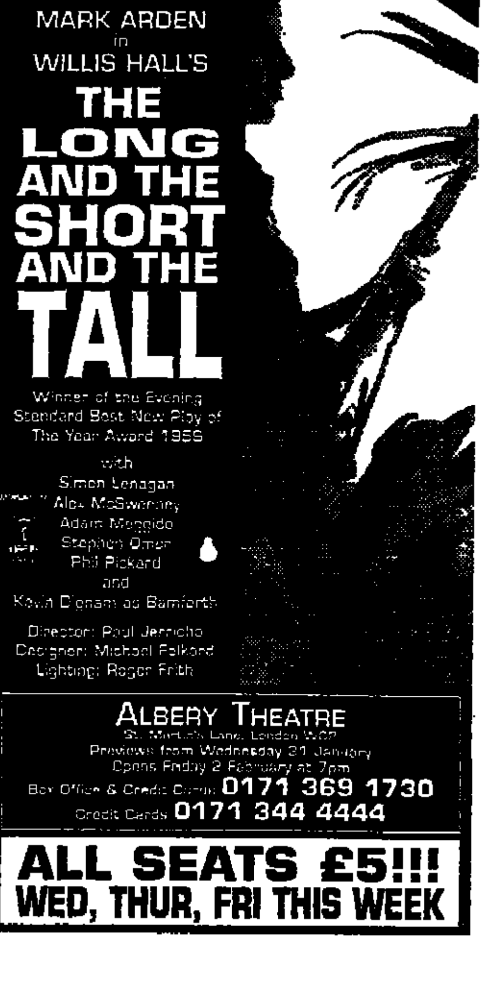
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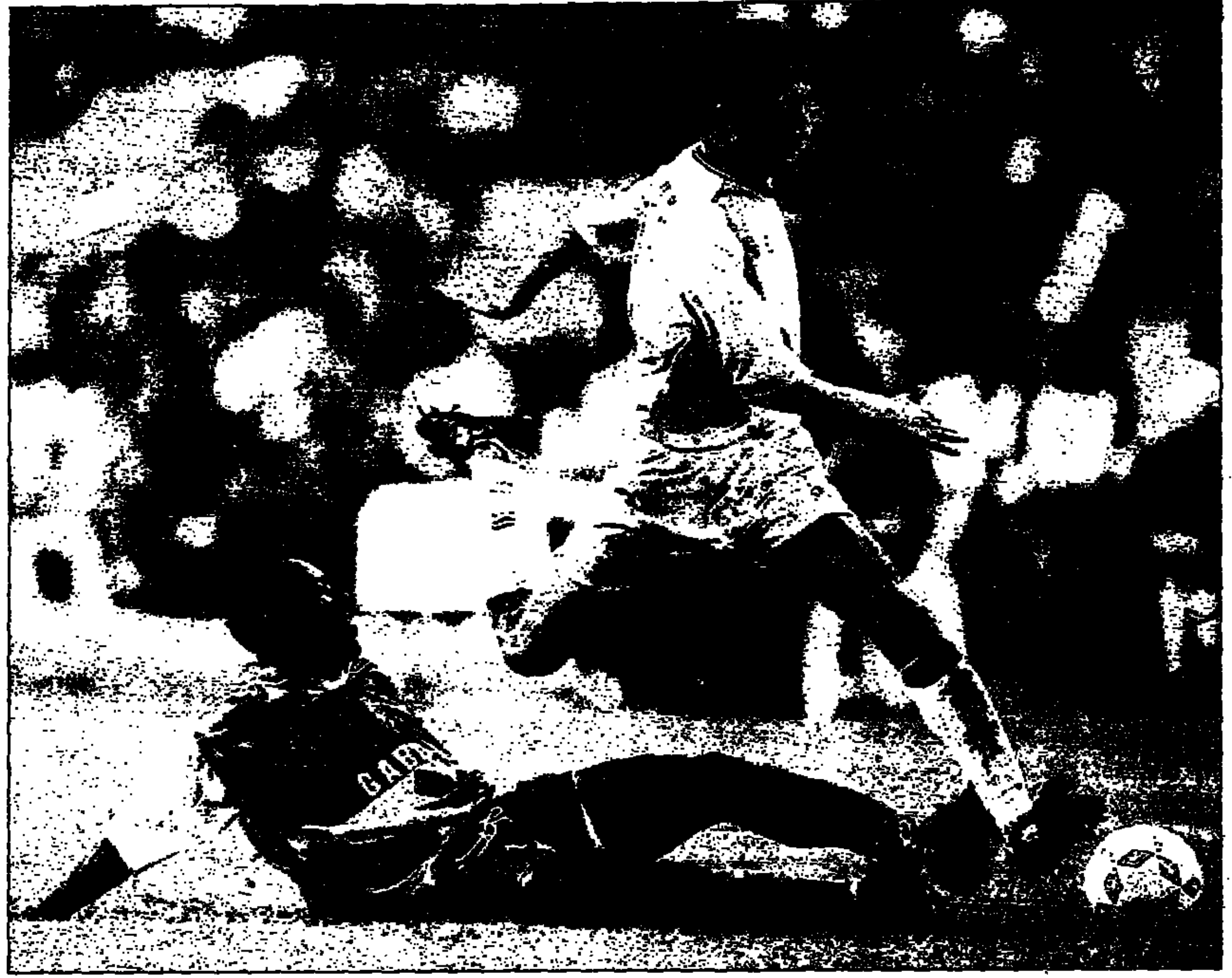
WED, THUR, FRI THIS WEEK

هكذا من الاصل

Knockout stage of tournament playing to empty houses in South Africa

Zambia skills light up cup of extremes

By Rob Hughes, football correspondent



Sellimi Adel, of Tunisia, beats Koumba Francois, of Gabon, during the African Nations Cup quarter-final in Durban

SOUTH Africa, or rather black South Africa, is beginning to appreciate emotions that make international football a game that can make grown men turn cartwheels of joy, or crumble into despair. The African Nations Cup is now down to the final four: Zambia and Tunisia meet in Durban and South Africa play Ghana in Johannesburg in the semi-finals tomorrow.

Alas, apart from the sights and sounds of criminal violence in Johannesburg, the football itself reminds us that racism dies hard. Apart from Soccer City, the vast stadium near Soweto, the games have been played to almost empty houses in rugby strongholds. The blacks cannot afford the prices or the time off work, the whites show little inclination to explore football, the township game, or to reciprocate the goodwill that the blacks afforded their sport at the rugby union World Cup last summer.

The loss is theirs. As soon as the knockout phase began, last weekend, the quarter-finals produced the extremes of the game still so virulent in Africa, still untrampled by the coaching systems that 400 of these players now obey as mercenaries of European clubs.

There is still something wild, something improvised and fun, in the way that Africans interpret the game in their own colours. One suspects that the tournament is on course for a final between Ghana, the country that produces an apparently endless stream of youngsters who master even Brazil at world youth level, and Zambia, who continue to astonish everyone, for it is really their second string that they are fielding after an air crash killed 18 of the best Zambian players less than three years ago.

In the shape of Kalusha Bwalya, Zambia has a performer who is a humble star. He has no great athletic physique, his handshake is mild, his conversation unassuming; but, put him on a football field, surround him with players intended to have been the next generation (for Kalusha, 32, missed the ill-fated plane), and he rises as an extraordinary leader of men.

He had scored five goals in two games before Egypt stopped him in Bloemfontein on Saturday. There, he made two of the three goals by which his young colleagues overran Egypt after conceding an early goal.

Ruud Krol, Egypt's Dutch coach, contributed to the defeat by taking off a striker and seeking to defend to the end. It seems to be a characteristic of the Arabic African nations that caution is in their blood. The fact that so many of them are fasting for Ramadan might be an excuse, but meanness of spirit, wedded to caution, is overbearing.

That could be seen *in extremis* on Sunday when Tunisia choked the life, the joy, the immaturity out of Gabon. Mogadon Rovers, as one thinks of Tunisia, had no ambition to cross the halfway line. After a goal apiece early on, they set out to bore Gabon to defeat, and the fellows from the heart of Africa ran into their measly trap.

Of all the contenders in South Africa, Gabon seemed the most backward in style and approach. Backward, though, can be beautiful, and these players, no doubt feeling enriched by the US$16 (£10.60) per day allowance paid to one and all in the tournament, ran themselves into the ground and attempted outrageous skills.

Tunisia waited for them to wilt, waited for the penalty shoot-out and, sure enough, won that 4-1 with Chokri El Ouaer, their goalkeeper, captain and organiser, scoring the last himself.

It puts Tunisia in the fire of Zambia, who have scored 12 times in the past three games. It left Gabon flat, the dream snatched away from them.

However, the other untamed side of African football could be seen when Ghana prevailed over Zaire in Port Elizabeth on Sunday. Tony Yeboah scored the only goal — a typical volley — but the violence of both sides has cost Ghana Abedi Pele, their captain, for the semi-final in Soccer City tomorrow night.

The Ghanaians travel up from sea level to 1,800 metres, where the South Africans lie in wait; but "home advantages" always were the preserve of the host side — hence England did not venture away from Wembley at the 1966 World Cup and hope not to have to do so at the European championship this June.

South Africa will miss Phil Masinga, the Leeds United striker, who is suspended having been shown two yellow cards. They may need more of the continuing symbolism that fires them: their goals in the quarter-final against Algeria were a powerful, athletic score from Mark Fish, a white whose youth was spent playing rugby, and an intuitive finish by John "Shoes" Moshoeu, born but rejected in Soweto.

Problems piling up for new RFU chairman

By David Hands
Rugby correspondent

CLIFF BRITTLE, who was elected chairman of the Rugby Football Union's (RFU) executive committee in controversial circumstances earlier this month, is facing a testing week. On Thursday, he is due to meet representatives of the English First-Division Clubs Ltd; on Friday, he will chair his first executive committee meeting.

Brittle, voted in by a 2-1 majority ahead of John Jeavons-Fellows, the RFU's own nominee, is on record as accepting the inevitability of professional rugby so long as the rush to professionalism is controlled. However, one of the consistent features of this first season of open rugby has been the relentless march of the senior clubs towards their brave new world.

Yesterday, the first-division clubs met to hear reports on the formation of the European Rugby Clubs Association last Friday, a meeting that agreed the principle of a two-tier European club competition. The clubs also determined their approach to the meeting on Thursday with the man who now occupies one of the key positions in the domestic game.

They need to establish, as swiftly as possible, the potential cash flow from any proposed new tournament, so that they can negotiate terms with their players; but their scheme cuts across the RFU proposal for an Anglo-Welsh competition.

The fluidity of the situation is emphasised by the rumblings further down the club scale. Last weekend, the fifth division (north) clubs rejected RFU proposals for a 17-club league and seek a 14-club structure, playing home and away. Yesterday, their southern counterparts announced the formation of a "league five association" to seek direct representation on the RFU competitions subcommittee and on the National Clubs Association.

Newcastle are understood to be in negotiation with Denis Charvet, the former France centre. Charvet, 34, who is a close friend of David Ginola, the Newcastle United footballer, said: "Everything should be sorted out within a month." Another Frenchman, Olivier Roumat, is reported to be talking about a transfer from Dax to Wasps, the only club to come through the weather-hit fifth round of the Pilkington Cup on Saturday. They will have been resigned to the draw for the quarter-finals, which yeserday sent them on their travels again — to Nottingham or Gloucester.

They have not played a home tie since losing the 1993 semi-final to Harlequins, but at least they are free to concentrate on their league match with Sale on February 10. Unless the other clubs agree to play their postponed ties this weekend, they must play on February 10 and postpone league games scheduled for that day.

DRAW

Bedford or Bristol v Wakefield or Bath
Leeds or London Irish v
West Hartlepool or Coventry
Leicester or Saracens v Newcastle or Harlequins
Nottingham or Gloucester v Wasps
To be played on February 24

Sri Lanka bow to all-round efforts of Waugh

By Our Sports Staff

STEVE WAUGH continued his domination of the third Test against Sri Lanka at Adelaide yesterday by bowling Australia to victory by 148 runs with an hour to spare as they completed a 3-0 clean sweep of the series.

Sri Lanka, who had been set a target of 401, were dismissed for 252 in 96.2 overs, but did not lose their third wicket until the score was 195. Then, Waugh ended more than four hours of defiance by Sanath Jayasuriya, the opening batsman, whose maiden Test hundred had threatened to deny Australia a victory that had been looked upon as a foregone conclusion.

Waugh, who had Jayasuriya caught by Ian Healy, finished with four for 34 from 19 overs to add to his century and unbeaten half-century earlier in the match. He was later named man of the series. The breaking of the third-wicket partnership between Jayasuriya and Sanjeewa Ranatunga, who made 65, brought serious resistance to an end.

There were some emotional scenes in the Australia dressing-room as David Boon bowed out of Test cricket on a winning note with a heartfelt tribute from Mark Taylor, his captain.

"David came into the side in 1984 when the team wasn't doing too well; he leaves the Australian team as a winner," Taylor said, later blaming himself for not acting sooner to sort out problems between the teams during the series.

"You see a side having troubles like they [Sri Lanka] were and you wonder whether you will be welcome in their changing-room," he said. "So that's my fault. I should have said to my players 'Let's go in' two or three weeks ago, because, as soon as we did go in the other day, it was a good scene."

A statement from the Sri Lanka management said: "Even though the matches have been fought hard on the field, relations between the players have been harmonious."

☐ If Pakistan retain the World Cup, each member of the squad will receive about £95,000 and a 500 square-yard plot of land in Islamabad, the Associated Press of Pakistan reported yesterday.

Consistent Ainslie confirms golden potential

From Edward Gorman
Sailing correspondent
in Miami

THE pick of the British Olympic yachting team's performances at the Olympic Classes regatta here was that of Ben Ainslie, 18, the Laser sailor, who followed his first place at the St Petersburg Sport regatta ten days ago with an impressive second in a good, 128-strong fleet.

Ainslie, who has completed three events this year and is now on his way to the New Zealand national championships, was alone in the team in looking race sharp in all conditions throughout the week.

Rod Carr, the team manager, was full of praise for the young gold-medal contender. "Ben's performance was stunning," Carr said. "It was the outstanding feature — you've got to remember the guy is the youth world champion and yet he is now beating all the seniors and doing it consistently. That should give him a lot of confidence."

Possibly, the only worry about Ainslie's Olympic campaign is that he may be peaking too early, a problem that is not affecting others in the squad, most of whom put in solid performances, finishing in or just outside the top ten in their first serious international competition for four months.

Some, such as John Merricks and Ian Walker, the gold-medal contenders, who were tenth in the 470s, Shirley Robertson, who was fifth in the Europes, and David Williams and Ian Rhodes, who were fourteenth in the Tornados, were using the regatta to experiment with new equipment, yet they still showed enough speed and experience to be up with the best in their classes.

Penny Wilson (née Way), in the women's windsurfing, showed improved strength and heavy air speed to finish fourth overall, while Richard Stenhouse put a good series together, including a win in the ninth race, to finish eleventh.

The most intriguing performance of the week was by the trio of Andy Beadsworth, Barry Parkin and Adrian Stead. Relatively new to the Soling class, they showed flashes of brilliance, but also inexperience, in finishing twelfth overall.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

Dealer South **Love all** **Rubber bridge**

♠A 2
♥K Q 9 7 3
♦8 4 2
♣8 5 4

♠K 10 9
♥J 8 2
♦J 7 5 3
♣Q 7 3

N
W E
S

♠J 8 7 4 3
♥10 6 5 4
♦A 10 8
♣9

♠Q 6 5
♥A
♦K Q 9
♣A K J 10 6 2

S	W	N	E
1 C	Pass	1 H	Pass
3 C	Pass	3 S	Pass
3 NT	All Pass		

Contract: 3 NT by South *Lead: King of spades*

On this hand, Peter Czerniewski, as West, found an excellent lead against 3 NT. He did not fancy his feeble diamond suit, so felt that the spade suit was the best point of attack. The king might gain if South had the singleton jack or queen. That was not the case here, but it had a gain in an unexpected direction — declarer's entry to the hearts was removed.

Now, how should the declarer think about the hand? If the clubs come in for no loser, he has nine tricks — two spades, a heart and six clubs. However, if there is a losing club, the declarer will have to develop clubs and diamonds to set up nine tricks. So, which should he play first?

There is no particular indication as to who has the ace of diamonds, but club length is more likely to be with West, as the king of spades lead is probably from a short holding. (West did not overcall in spades; and, in addition, with length, he would be more likely to lead low). So, the club queen is also more likely to be with West than East.

This means that the distribution that declarer must cater for is West holding the club queen and East the diamond ace and long spades. Accordingly, at trick two, South should play a diamond. If West happens to win this and play spades, the declarer will have to duck and then hope that, if West switches back to diamonds, he started with only three. On the actual layout, playing diamonds first was the only winning line.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

MANDATIVE
a. Commanding
b. Liking dates
c. Prohibitive

MINUTIOUS
a. Threatening
b. Pernickety
c. Up to the minute

LEAMING
a. Cowardly
b. The harvest
c. Shining

MANTELET
a. A nocturnal rodent
b. A pelmet
c. A short mantle

Answers on page 42

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess correspondent

Wijk aan Zee results

The important tournament at Wijk aan Zee, in Holland, ended in a triumph for Vassily Ivanchuk, the Ukranian grandmaster. He won first prize, a point clear of Viswanathan Anand, of India, the world championship challenger.

In this game, White launches a desperate attack to drive the black king into the open, but White's ambitions are foiled by a subtle queen sacrifice that brings the White onslaught to a standstill and enables Black to create a new queen.

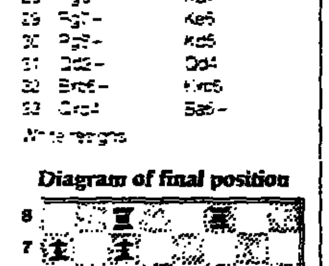
White: Ivan Sokolov
Black: Vassily Ivanchuk
Wijk aan Zee, January 1996

Nimzo-Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nc3	Bb4
4	Qc2	0-0
5	a3	Bxc3+
6	Qxc3	b6
7	Bg5	Bb7
8	e3	d6
9	c5	Nc6
10	Nf3	h6
11	Bh4	g5
12	Bg3	bxc5
13	dxc5	Ne4
14	Qc2	f5
15	Bb5	Rc8
16	Nd2	Nxd2
17	Qxd2	Qf6
18	h4	f4
19	hxg5	hxg5
20	exf4	gxf4
21	Rh4	Qe5+
22	Kf1	fxg3
23	Rg4+	Kf7
24	Re1	Qxc5
25	Qf4+	Ke8
26	Rxe6+	Kd7
27	Rg7+	Kxe6
28	Rg6+	Kd7
29	Rg7+	Ke6
30	Rg6+	Kd5
31	Qd2+	Qd4
32	Bxc6+	Kxc6
33	Qxd4	Bc5+

White resigns

Diagram of final position



FINAL SCORES: Ivanchuk played 9, 13pts. Anand [illegible] Topalov [illegible] Tiviakov, Adams, [illegible] Piket [illegible] Shirov, Leko [illegible] Van Wely 5, Timman 4

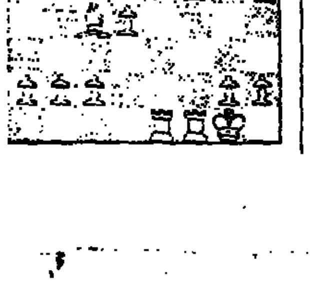
Times book

All games of the world title match are available with commentary by Raymond Keene in a *Times* book, *World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anand* (Batsford £9.99). Credit card orders should be telephoned on 01376 327901 (please quote 5/655).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



White to move. This position is from the game Reti — von Freyman, Abbazia, 1912. White has a dangerous attack for his sacrificed piece and, were his queen not attacked, he could now regain material with the pedestrian 1. Bxg8. He found something much stronger. Can you see it?

Solution on page 42

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

TEMPE, Arizona: Superbowl: Dallas 27 Pittsburgh 17

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Chicago 93 Phoenix 82

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester 83 Leopards 100; Sheffield 102 Worthing 80; London 83 Derby 68; Doncaster 91 Newcastle 99

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Crystal Palace 60 Ware 56; Stockton 84 Coventry 110.

BIATHLON

VAL RIDANNA, Italy: European championship: Women: Relay (3 x 7.5km): 1, Russia (Magurov, Dratshe, Rozyrev, Kobeleva) 1hr 33min 14.2sec; 2, Belarussia 1:34:17.9; 3, Germany 1:36:43.1; 4, Poland 1:37:01.6; 5, France 1:37:19.5; 6, Czech Republic 1:38:20.6

BOWLS

LLANELLI: Welsh international trial: Blues 87 Yellows 64. Rink scores (Blue skips first): J Price 21 R Williams 15; M Anstey 23 S Rees 22; N Leigh 21 R Weale 15; J Greenslade 22 P Foregum 11

EGHAM TROPHY: Zone finals: Zone one: Postponed: Cumbria v Hartlepool. Zone two: Postponed: Blackpool Borough v York. Zone three: Postponed: Sutton v South Forest. Zone four: Kingsthorpe 61 Cambridge Chesterton 71. Zone five: North Walsham 82 Ipswich 73. Zone six: Tilbury 91 Stonyhill 63. Zone seven: Paddington 100 David Lloyd (Chigwell) 62. Zone eight: Desborough (Maidenhead) 77 Herts Watford 68. Zone nine: Swindon Westlecot 75 Urdington Court 73. Zone ten: Cambridge Park 95 Croydon 53. Zone 11: Loddon Vale 77 Wey Valley 78. Zone 12: Prince Arthur 70 Royal Tunbridge Wells 71. Zone 13: Preston 38 Worthing 71. Zone 14: Atherley 103 Dolphin 70. Zone 15: Northaven 69 British Cellophane 61. Zone 16: Teignbridge 80 Bodmin 75.

BOXING

BANGKOK: World Boxing Association bantamweight championship (12 rnds): Nana Konadu (Ghana) Veeraphon Nakhonluang (Thai, holder) rsc 2nd rnd.

CRICKET

Third Test match

Australia v Sri Lanka

ADELAIDE (final day of five): Australia beat Sri Lanka by 148 runs

AUSTRALIA: First innings 502 for 9 dec (S R Waugh 170, M E Waugh 71, I A Healy 70, P R Reiffel 56). Second innings 215 for 6 dec (S R Waugh 61 not out)

SRI LANKA: First innings 317 (H P Tillekeratne 65, S Ranatunga 60, P R Reiffel 5-39, G D McGrath 4-91)

Second innings

J C Hathurusinghe c Healy b McGrath	14
S T Jayasuriya c Healy b S Waugh	112
A P Gurusinha b Reiffel	2
S Ranatunga c Healy b S Waugh	65
†R S Kaluwitharana b S Waugh	0
H P Tillekeratne c Healy b McGrath	3
*P A de Silva c Taylor b M Waugh	3
H D P K Dharmasena c Taylor b S Waugh	2
W P U J C Vaas c Healy b McGrath	26
G P Wickremasinghe b Warne	6
K R Pushpakumara not out	3
Extras (b 1, lb 6, nb 9)	16
Total	252

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-51, 2-70, 3-195, 4-195, 5-199, 6-203, 7-216, 8-225, 9-232.

BOWLING: McGrath 22.2-6-48-3; Reiffel 15-0-60-1; S Waugh 19-8-34-4; Warne 27-11-56-1; McDermott 9-3-20-0; M Waugh 4-1-15-1.

Man of the match: S R Waugh

Umpires: L Barker (West Indies) and S Randall (Australia).

Australia win series 3-0.

SHEFFIELD SHIELD (final day of four): Sydney: Western Australia 402 and 193-4 dec; New South Wales 259 and 220-5 (M Bevan 109). Match drawn. Brisbane: Queensland 533-6 dec; Tasmania 336 and 230-8 (Shaun Young 175 not out). Match drawn

	P	W	D	L	Pts
S Australia	6	3	1	2	20
N S Wales	6	3	2	1	18
Tasmania	6	2	2	2	14
Queensland	6	2	3	1	14
W Australia	6	1	4	1	14
Victoria	6	0	2	4	4

RED STRIPE CUP (second day of four): Kingston: Guyana 559-5 dec (S Chanderpaul 303 not out, R Harper 124, A Percival 78); Jamaica 154 (Harper 5-38) and 138-3. Pointe-a-Pierre: Barbados 337 and 226 (F Reifer 81 not out; A Samaroo 4-75); Trinidad and Tobago 263 and 255-6 (B Lara 119, S Ragoonath 85). Anguilla: Leeward Islands 320; Windward Islands 159 and 154. Leeward Islands won by an innings and 7 runs.

FOOTBALL

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: Third division: Postponed: Doncaster v Lincoln.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: St Patrick's Ath 2 Dundalk 1.

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Fiorentina 1 Vicenza 1.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Valencia 4 Merida 1; Compostela 1 Valladolid 3; Albacete 0 Espanol 0; Real Sociedad 1 Sevilla 0; Racing de Santander 1 Sporting de Gijon 1; Atletico Madrid 4 Bilbao 1; Tenerife 1 Celta Vigo 0.

FRENCH LEAGUE: St Etienne 0 Nantes 0.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Estrela Amadora 1 Farense 1; Gil Vicente 1 Boavista 1; Sporting Lisbon 0 Braga 1; Salgueiros 2 Maritimo 0; Tirsense 0 Uniao Leiria 1; Chaves 2 Porto 3.

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Palmeiras 6 Ferroviaria 1; America 0 Novorizontino 0; Santos 1 Uniao São Joao 0; Guarani 0 Mogi Mirim 4; Aracatuba 0 Portuguesa 3; XV De Jau 1 Juventus 0

ADELAIDE: Oceania Olympic qualifying tournament: Australia 5 Fiji 0; New Zealand 6 Solomon Islands 0.

SCHOOLS MATCH: Under-15 international trial: England XI 0 North West Region Under-16 2 (at Lytham).

FREESTYLE SKIING

MONT TREMBLANT, Quebec: World Cup event: Men: Aerial: 1, C Rijavec (Austria) 237.78pts; 2, A Blanc (Fr) 231.22; 3, B Swortley (US) 221.49; 4, D Bethumeur (Can) 215.55; 5, K Feddersen (US) 213.06. World Cup positions: 1, Rijavec 544pts; 2, Feddersen 532; 3, Blanc 516; 4, L Langlois (Can) 512; 5, S Foucras (Fr) 512.

GOLF

TANAH MERAH, Singapore: Johnnie Walker Classic: Final scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 272: I Woosnam 69, 68, 69, 66 (won at third extra hole); A Coltart 69, 68, 70, 65. 275: O Karlsson (Swe) 66, 69, 74, 66; P Curry 68, 70, 69, 68; W Riley (Aus) 70, 67, 67, 71. 276: Park Nam-Sin (S Kor) 72, 67, 72, 65; B Hughes (Aus) 66, 72, 70, 68; C Parry (Aus) 72, 68, 67, 69; E Els (SA) 67, 67, 72, 70; A Painter (Aus) 67, 70, 69, 70; F Couples (US) 68, 69, 69, 70. 277: A Hunter 69, 71, 68, 69; P Eales 69, 67, 68, 73. 278: D Clarke 67, 70, 73, 68; P McGinley 71, 68, 69, 70. 279: D Dunakey (US) 71, 68, 70, 70; R Boxall 73, 70, 65, 71. 280: D Ferdon (Aus) 69, 70, 71, 70; C Cevaer (Fr) 72, 70, 68, 70; J Daly (US) 67, 73, 69, 71; S Struver (Ger) 71, 70, 68, 71. 281: *C Plaphol (Thai) 72, 69, 70, 70; A Gilligan (Aus) 73, 69, 69, 70; K Tomori (Japan) 70, 73, 70, 68; H Clark 70, 69, 71, 72; J Van de Velde (Fr) 69, 71, 69, 72. 282: R Claydon 73, 67, 70, 72; J Senior (Aus) 71, 71, 68, 72; S Mori (Japan) 74, 68, 72, 68. 283: R Green (Aus) 73, 69, 70, 71; A Sherborne 68, 74, 70, 71; J Singh (India) 69, 73, 71, 70; R Willis 73, 65, 72, 73; S Torrance 68, 72, 70, 73; R Burns 73, 69, 68, 73; I Aoki (Japan) 70, 68, 71, 74; M Mouland 73, 70, 71, 69; D McKenzie (Aus) 68, 70, 71, 74. 284: G Orr 71, 72, 69, 72; B Langer (Ger) 68, 74, 71, 71; P Senior (Aus) 69, 71, 73, 71; J O'Keefe (US) 70, 72, 74, 68. 285: T Price (Aus) 69, 72, 72, 72; P Gunasegaran (Malaysia) 71, 70, 72, 72; J Townsend (US) 68, 74, 69, 74; P Moss (US) 69, 71, 73, 72; M Harwood (Aus) 71, 70, 73, 71; G Nicklaus (US) 71, 72, 74, 68. 286: F Lindgren (Swe) 71, 71, 70, 74; Chor Sang-Ho (S Kor) 70, 69, 73, 74; Chua Guan-Soon (Sing) 75, 67, 71, 73; J Payne 73, 68, 73, 72; G Norman (Aus) 71, 72, 73, 70

* denotes amateur

PORT EDWARD: South African Masters: Final scores (SA unless stated): 280: W Westner 69, 68, 70, 73. 283: C Williams 71, 69, 69, 74; W Schulte 70, 72, 70, 71; P Moore (US) 68, 72, 71, 72. 284: M Christie (US) 67, 76, 69, 72; T Dodds (Nam) 71, 73, 70, 70. 285: I Hutchings 70, 73, 74, 68; M McNulty (Zim) 68, 69, 72, 76. 286: G Reid 72, 70, 73, 71; F Quinn Jr (US) 73, 69, 72, 72. 287: B Orr (US) 72, 74, 70, 71. 288: R McCann 74, 71, 72, 71. 289: I Palmer 70, 70, 71, 78; R Sailor (Austria) 68, 78, 68, 77; S van der Merwe 72, 70, 73, 74; D Terblanche 69, 77, 71, 72; B Lincoln 73, 72, 73, 71; M Scholz 71, 75, 74, 69. 290: C Dawson (GB) 70, 73, 70, 77; N Henning 69, 76, 71, 74; H Baiocchi 69, 74, 71, 76; D Higgins (Ire) 68, 72, 74, 76; M Gortana 72, 74, 68, 76; J Mashego 72, 72, 70, 76.

HOCKEY

LUCERNE: European under-21 indoor championship: A division: Scotland 4 Spain 10; Denmark 9 Scotland 3; Switzerland 7 Scotland 7.

WELSH WOMEN'S CUP: Quarter-finals: Cardiff Institute 1 Haverfordwest 1 (Cardiff won 4-1 on pens); Swansea 6 Newport 2.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Bryanston 1 Sherborne 1; Canford 3 King's, Taunton 0.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Washington 3 Philadelphia 2; Montreal 5 Boston 4.

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff 17 Humberside 6; Durham 9 Basingstoke 1; Newcastle 5 Nottingham 5; Slough 9 Fife 9. First division: Bracknell 6 Medway 2; Guildford 5 Dumfries 4; Manchester 28 Solihull 3; Murrayfield 5 Blackburn 7; Paisley 11 Peterborough 4; Telford 4 Swindon 11.

RUGBY UNION

ITALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Calvisano 33 Catania 14; San Dona 20 Piacenza 25; Treviso 44 L'Aquila 22; Livorno 24 Roma 37; Mirano 29 Rovigo 28; Milan 20 Padova 3

REAL TENNIS

NEW YORK: US Open: Men: Singles: Semi-finals: W Davies (Aus) bt M Gooding (Eng) 6-5, 6-4, 6-6; J Snow (GB) bt P Tabley (Aus) 6-2, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2. Doubles: Semi-finals: C Bray and M Gooding (GB) bt R Gunn (GB) and P Tabley (Aus) 3-2; J Snow and M Wood (GB) bt W Davies (Aus) and M Clothier (US) 6-3, 3-6, 6-2, 6-4.

SNOOKER

NEWPORT: Regal Welsh Open: First round: (England unless stated): D Taylor (N Ire) bt P Wykes 5-1; R O'Sullivan bt Y Merchant (India) 5-1; B Snaddon (Scot) bt A Robidoux (Can) 5-3; M Williams (Wales) bt W Thorne 5-1; S Hendry (Scot) bt M Hallett 5-1; D Morgan (Wales) bt O King 5-2; D Henry (Scot) bt T Drago (Malta) 5-4. Second round: P Hunter bt N Foulds 5-2; P Ebdon bt A Hamilton 5-3; T Murphy (N Ire) bt G Wilkinson 5-3.

TENNIS

SHANGHAI: Men's tournament: First round: M Petchey (GB) bt S Campbell (US) 6-4, 6-4; H Arazi (Mor) bt L Paes (Indo) 6-4, 7-6; D Pescariu (Rom) bt O Ogorodov (Uzb) 6-7, 6-2, 6-2; M Tebbutt (Aus) bt D Nainkin (SA) 6-4, 6-2; T Henman (GB) bt J-P Fleurian (Fr) 6-7, 6-2, 7-5; J Grabb (US) bt Pan Bing (China) 6-2, 6-3.

YACHTING

MIAMI: Olympic classes regatta: Final positions: Europe: 1, J Armstrong (NZ); 2, D Jensen (Den); 3, T Moberg-Parker (Can). Finn: 1, P Presti (Fr); 2, F Loof (Swe); 3, R Clarke (Can). 470: Men: 1, M Ivaldi (It); 2, B Bengtsson (Sweden); 3, M Sturman (US). Women: 1, K Stookey (US); 2, J Swenson (US); 3, T Zabell (Sp). Laser: 1, S Wertella (Ger); 2, B Ainslie (GB); 3, P Tranchell (Br). Mistral: Men: 1, J Marcial (Sp); 2, M Galvan (Arg); 3, T Philp (Fiji). Women: 1, J Benedict (US); 2, J Horgen (Nor); 3, C-A Alie (Can). Soling: 1, H Johannessen (Norway); 2, M Holmberg (Swe); 3, S Westergaard (Den). Star: 1, M Reynolds (US); 2, C Beashel (Aus); 3, V Brun (US). Tornado: 1, A Hagara (Austria); 2, P Thorens (Swtz); 3, F Leon (Sp).

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday February 3 unless stated

Coupon No, fixture, forecast

FA PREMIERSHIP

1 Arsenal v Coventry	1
2 Aston Villa v Leeds	1
3 Blackburn v Bolton	1
4 Liverpool v Tottenham	1
5 Man City v QPR	X
6 Newcastle v Sheff Wed	1
7 Southampton v Everton	2
8 West Ham v Nott'm F	[illegible]
9 Wimbledon v Man Utd	2

Not on coupons: Chelsea v Middlesbrough (Sunday).

FIRST DIVISION

10 Barnsley v Watford	1
11 Grimsby v Derby	2
12 Hudd'field v Tranmere	1
13 Ipswich v West Brom	1
14 Leicester v Luton	1
15 Sheff Utd v Oldham	2
16 Southend v Millwall	X
17 Wolves v Sunderland	1

Not on coupons: Charlton v Crystal Palace (Sunday), Norwich v Birmingham (Sunday), Port Vale v Stoke (Sunday), Reading v Portsmouth (Sunday)

SECOND DIVISION

18 Blackpool v Hull	1
19 Bournem'th v Wycombe	1
20 Brentford v Burnley	X
21 Brighton v Wrexham	X
22 Bristol R v Walsall	2
23 Chesterfield v Swansea	1
24 Crewe v York	1
25 Notts Co v Peterboro	1
26 Rotherham v Oxford	1
27 Shrewsbury v Bradford	X
28 Stockport v Bristol C	X
29 Swindon v Carlisle	1

THIRD DIVISION

30 Barnet v Scunthorpe	X
31 Bury v Hereford	2
32 Cambridge v Gillingham	2
33 Cardiff v Doncaster	X
34 Darlington v Leyton O	1
35 Hartlepool v Rochdale	1
36 Lincoln v Colchester	2
37 Mansfield v Northampton	2
38 Plymouth v Chester	X
39 Scarboro v Exeter	2
40 Torquay v Fulham	1
41 Wigan v Preston	1

SCOTTISH PREMIER

42 Celtic v Hibernian	1
43 Falkirk v Kilmarnock	2
44 Hearts v Raith	X
45 Motherwell v Aberdeen	2
46 Partick v Rangers	2

SCOTTISH FIRST

47 Airdrie v Clydebank	1
48 Dundee U v St Johnstone	1
49 Dunfermline v Dundee	2
50 G Morton v Hamilton	1
51 St Mirren v Dumbarton	1

SCOTTISH SECOND

52 Ayr v Stenhousemuir	X
53 East Fife v Clyde	1
54 Montrose v Berwick	X
55 Stirling v Q of South	1
56 Stranraer v Forfar	2

SCOTTISH THIRD

57 Albion v E Stirling	X
58 Alloa v Ross	2

Not on coupons: Arbroath v Queen's Park; Caledonian v Cowdenbeath; Livingston v Brechin

DRAWS (home teams): Manchester City, Southend, Brentford, Brighton, Shrewsbury, Stockport County, Barnet, Cardiff, Plymouth Argyle, Ayr, Montrose, Albion Rovers

BEST DRAWS: Manchester City, Brentford, Brighton, Stockport, Plymouth Argyle.

AWAYS: Manchester United, Derby County, Walsall, Northampton, Exeter

HOMES: Aston Villa, Newcastle United, Barnsley, Huddersfield, Crewe, Notts County, Rotherham, Hartlepool, Torquay United, Celtic, St Mirren, Stirling Albion

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Barnsley, Huddersfield, Crewe, Torquay, Celtic. Aways: Man United, Northampton, Exeter. Draws: Manchester City, Brentford, Plymouth.

☐ Vince Wright

Champion braves elements for all-weather return today

JULIAN HERBERT

The stylish Dettori, who captured last season's St Leger on Classic Cliche, returns to action at Lingfield's all-weather meeting today

Dettori under starter's orders

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

FRANKIE DETTORI returns to action at Lingfield today after a seven-week globetrotting holiday — and the charismatic champion jockey can hardly wait for the starting stalls to burst open.

"I am absolutely bored stiff and cannot wait to get back," he enthused yesterday. "I am so pleased to be back home. I have never missed home so much after being away for so long. Just give me those horses to ride."

The exuberant Dettori last rode in a race on December 10 in Hong Kong since when he has been on holiday with his girlfriend, Catherine Allen. "We went to Thailand for a couple of weeks, spent Christmas in Phuket, and then skied in France for two weeks over the New Year. We went to Mexico for a few days, then on to Los Angeles and Las Vegas before returning on Saturday," he said.

While in Los Angeles he saw Jeremy Noseda, the former Godolphin handler who now trains on the West Coast and old friends, including Bill Shoemaker, Charlie Whittingham and Richard Cross. Dettori rode two pieces of work at Santa Anita but resisted the temptation to race ride.

Dettori, who rides in the last two races at Lingfield today, added: "I have told my agent, Mattie Cowing, to take it easy for the first week to enable me to get into the swing of things. What I want to do this month is concentrate on John Gosden's horses and then spent much of March in Dubai, preparing for the Dubai World Cup. "Obviously, I would love to be champion jockey again, but it will be very hard to match last year. We have a lot of nice horses; let's hope Godolphin can produce another Lammtarra somewhere along the line. John Gosden has some useful three-year-olds and I shall also be riding some horses for David Loder, Ian Balding and Luca Cumani."

Looking to the months ahead, Dettori spoke highly about Lord Of Men, who ended last season winning the Prix de la Salamandre at Longchamp, and Rio Duvida, who finished within half a length of Alhaarth in the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster before winning the strongly contested Houghton Sales Stakes.

Clearly, there will be no horses of that calibre on the all-weather today, but Dettori has a sound chance of starting the season on a winning note. Flirty Gertie showed improved form when winning at Southwell 11 days ago after a 14-week break, and the Ron Boss-trained filly looks open to further improvement.

Dettori's main concern will be the bitterly cold weather which has greeted his return to Britain. "I'll be wearing ear muffs at Lingfield, but it would be a bit uncomfortable riding in ski gloves."

The Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Leopardstown on Sunday, which has ten potential runners after yesterday's forfeit stage, should provide fascinating pointers towards the Cheltenham Gold Cup. Ladbrokes yesterday opened a book on the top chase, won for the past three seasons by Jodami, and they bet: 2-1 Master Oats, 3-1 Jodami, 7-2 Monsieur Le Cure, 9-2 Flashing Steel, 7-1 Imperial Call, Life Of A Lord, 33-1 bar.

Norman Williamson, who rode Master Oats to victory in the Cheltenham Gold Cup last year, will be helping RTE cover the race on Sunday before returning to England for an X-ray on Monday, which will determine when he can return from injury.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: FLIRTY GERTIE
(3.40 Lingfield Park)
Next best: Love Bird
(2.40 Lingfield Park)

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER
1.40 Hever Golf Star. 2.10 Dancing Lawyer. 2.40 Love Bird. 3.10 District Beauty. 3.40 Flirty Gertie. 4.10 Dahiyah.

Newmarket Correspondent: 2.10 Spencer's Revenge. 3.10 DISTINCT BEAUTY (nap). 3.40 Flirty Gertie.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.40 LANDAU HANDICAP (£3,420: 5f) (7 runners)

101 (4) 00-0 SPENDER 21 (CD,F,G) P Harris 7-10-0 J Stack (3) 89
102 (5) -640 HANNAH'S USHER 10 (B,D,F,G) C Murray 4-9-12 M Tebbutt 93
103 (6) 242- HEVER GOLF STAR 75 (D,F) T Naughton 4-9-10 J Weaver [illegible]
104 (1) 51-1 SUPER ROCKY 27 (CD,F,G) R Bastiman 7-9-4 H Bastiman (5) 97
105 (3) 116- HALF TONE 43 (B,CD,G) R Flower 4-9-1 D Biggs 96
106 (7) -020 DISTANT DYNASTY 6 (CD,G,S) B Pearce 6-8-10 S Sanders 98
107 (2) -660 SUPERLAO 10 (D,F,G) J Bridger 4-7-13 J Quinn 95

3-1 Half Tone, 4-1 Spender, Hever Golf Star, 9-2 Super Rocky, 6-1 Distant Dynasty, 8-1 Hannah's Usher, 16-1 Superlao.

2.10 DOG CART CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,859: 1m) (8)

201 (1) 10-6 DANCING LAWYER 28 (CD,F,G) B Meehan 5-9-5 J Weaver 97
202 (3) 1-23 MR NEVERMIND 5 (CD,F,G) G L Moore 6-9-5 S Whitworth 98
203 (4) 300- WHAT A NIGHTMARE 46 (B,D,F,G) P Howling 4-9-3 J Quinn 95
204 (2) -132 SPENCER'S REVENGE 5 (CD,BF,F,G) M Ryan 7-9-1 G Bardwell [illegible]
205 (6) ELUSIVE STAR 81J J White 6-8-10 S Drowne (3) —
206 (5) 50-0 LONELY VIGIL 10 K Cunningham-Brown 4-8-10 A Clark —
207 (7) -055 EASTLEIGH 11 (V,CD,G,S) R Hollinshead 7-8-9 M Wigham 89
208 (8) 005- CANNIZARO 150 (CD,G) R Williams 4-8-6 D Biggs 80

11-4 Spencer's Revenge, 3-1 Dancing Lawyer, 7-2 Mr Nevermind, 5-1 What A Nightmare, 6-1 Cannizaro, 8-1 Eastleigh, 10-1 others.

2.40 SULKY MAIDEN STAKES (£3,599: 1m 2f) (9)

301 (5) -3/ BOYFRIEND 447J D Elsworth 6-9-12 A Procter (3) —
302 (9) 06-0 DOUBLE JEOPARDY 17 (B) J White 5-9-12 M Tebbutt —
303 (8) -80/ FULL OF TRICKS 1051J J Bridger 6-9-12 J Quinn —
304 (1) 00- BARBASON 123 A Moore 4-9-10 Candy Morris 82
305 (2) 4-0 TANIYAR 17 R Hollinshead 4-9-10 T Ives —
306 (7) 0-06 LADY ELIZABETH 8 K Cunningham-Brown 4-9-5 T Ives —
307 (4) 0-32 BATH KNIGHT 10 D French Davis 3-8-3 G Carter 83
308 (6) 334- DIEGO 113 C Brittain 3-8-3 M Larsen [illegible]
309 (3) 54-3 LOVE BIRD 19 M Johnston 3-8-3 T Williams 92

2-1 Diego, 5-2 Love Bird, 3-1 Bath Knight, 6-1 Boyfriend, 12-1 Taniyar, 16-1 Double Jeopardy, 20-1 Lady Elizabeth, 25-1 others.

3.10 CAROLE BLACKBURN HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £2,927: 1m 2f) (10)

401 (7) -111 CHINA CASTLE 6 (CD,G) P Haslam 9-12 (6ex) J Fortune 93
402 (2) 2-12 DISTINCT BEAUTY 3 (B,CD,G) W O'Gorman 9-6 Emma O'Gorman [illegible]
403 (3) 31-3 THORNTOUN ESTATE 21 (CD,G) M Johnston 8-10 D McKeown 96
404 (10) 033- UONI 58 C Brittain 8-10 M Larsen 90
405 (5) 0-34 HOTLIPS HOULIHAN 10 (F) R Williams 8-9 D Biggs 97
406 (9) 006- FLAHUIL 55 R Hannon 8-6 G Carter 96
407 (4) 0-13 SOVEREIGN PRINCE 3 (C,G) N Callaghan 8-3 J Quinn 94
408 (1) 000- SIGNS R US 110 J Scargill 7-10 N Adams 89
409 (6) 00-0 LORD ELLANGOWAN 19 R Ingram 7-10 M Baird (5) —
410 (8) 60-0 TARTAN EXPRESS 21 B Pearce 7-10 G Bardwell —

3-1 China Castle, 4-1 Distinct Beauty, Uoni, 9-2 Thorntoun Estate, 6-1 Hotlips Houlihan, 7-1 Sovereign Prince, 8-1 Flahuil, 10-1 others.

3.40 HANSOM LIMITED STAKES (£2,900: 7f) (10)

501 (3) 0402 FOUR OF SPADES 5 (B,CD,F,G) P Evans 5-9-13 Amanda Sanders (5) 96
502 (8) 0-20 CRYSTAL HEIGHTS 10 (C,D,F,G) R O'Sullivan 8-9-10 A Clark 94
503 (2) 1-62 HAWAII STORM 10 (CD,G,S) D French Davis 8-9-10 C Adamson (5) 92
504 (9) 30-0 MASTER MILLFIELD 12 (CD,F,G) C Hill 4-9-10 J Weaver 86
505 (1) 500- ANSAL BOY 106 (D,F) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-7 B Ford (7) —
506 (10) 05-5 DRAGON GREEN 19 (G) J White 5-9-7 S Drowne (3) 80
507 (4) -000 MANABAR 6 (G) M Polglase 4-9-7 M Fenton 90
508 (5) 203- PRESENT SITUATION 43 (CD,G) Lord Huntingdon 5-9-7 Aimee Cook (7) 95
509 (6) 20-1 FLIRTY GERTIE 11 (D,G) R Boss 4-9-5 L Dettori [illegible]
510 (7) 425- MOI CANARD 55 (C,F,G) B Pearce 3-8-9 S Sanders 89

2-1 Flirty Gertie, 9-2 Present Situation, 5-1 Hawaii Storm, 6-1 Four Of Spades, Crystal Heights, 8-1 Master Millfield, 12-1 Ansal Boy, 14-1 others.

4.10 PHAETON HANDICAP (£2,541: 6f) (10)

601 (3) 3-30 PATSY GRIMES 10 (C,D,G,S) J Moore 6-10-0 P Murphy (5) 94
602 (1) -006 TAFAHHUS 1 (V,CD,F) M Polglase 4-9-11 M Fenton 90
603 (5) 0/00 WILLRACK FARRIER 21 (G,S) B Meehan 4-9-7 J Weaver 87
604 (10) 5-01 RANDOM 12 (CD,G) C James 5-8-7 C Rutter 96
605 (7) 0-30 ROCKCRACKER 12 (D,F) G Margarson 4-9-5 A Clark 93
606 (6) 0-02 DAHIYAH 7 (V,D,F) G L Moore 5-9-5 S Whitworth [illegible]
607 (9) -223 AWASHA 4 (BF) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-5 L Dettori 95
608 (4) 44-0 ANYTIME BABY 20 (C,G) P Dalton 4-8-12 S D Williams 96
609 (2) 0-43 NEWINGTON BUTTS 12 (B,E) K McAuliffe 6-8-9 S Sanders 96
610 (8) -005 SHAYNES DOMAIN 3 (B,G) R Flower 5-8-4 D Biggs 90

4-1 Dahiyah, 9-2 Newington Butts, 5-1 Patsy Grimes, Random, 11-2 Awasha, 8-1 Shaynes Domain, Rockcracker, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: C Murray, 3 winners from 10 runners, 30.0%; P Harris, 9 from 31, 29.0%; Lord Huntingdon, 36 from 167, 21.6%; K McAuliffe, 9 from 47, 19.1%; N Callaghan, 14 from 79, 17.7%; R O'Sullivan, 45 from 259, 17.4%.

JOCKEYS: L Dettori, 61 winners from 236 rides, 25.8%; J Weaver, 56 from 241, 23.2%; Emma O'Gorman, 32 from 160, 20.0%; T Ives, 20 from 112, 17.9%; S Whitworth, 21 from 126, 16.7%; D McKeown, 18 from 109, 16.5%.

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright
suggests the best value in the ante-post market

GUIDE TO THE SPONSOR'S PRICES

Pharanear	3-1	Hops And Pops	16-1
Treasure Again	6-1	Top Spin	16-1
Roberty Lea	7-1	Dark Honey	20-1
Sparky Gayle	10-1	Fuzzy Logic	20-1
Traingiot	10-1	Lucky Blue	20-1
Grooving	12-1	Simpson	20-1
Bell Staffboy	14-1	[illegible]	25-1
Kamikaze	14-1	Island Jewel	25-1
Trickle Lad	14-1	Runaway Pete	25-1
Do Be Have	16-1	Taos	33-1
Feels Like Gold	16-1	Outset	40-1

After a quiet recent spell which has served only to provide betting shop fodder, Saturday's card at Sandown offers a return to competitive fare. The Tote sponsors the day's most competitive race, the Sandown Handicap Hurdle, and is alone in offering prices at the five-day stage. David Nicholson's improving six-year-old Pharanear understandably heads the market, having posted an impressive success from subsequent winner Angelo's Double at Warwick earlier this month. He has been raised a fair 9lb for that 20-length victory, but 3-1 in this more competitive race offers little value. Treasure Again produced his best performance over three miles at Ascot last time, but the handicapper may now have taken his measure. Of more interest is Mary Reveley's Roberty Lea. He was unsuited by both the two-mile trip and slow early pace when fourth at Haydock recently, and will appreciate Saturday's extra six furlongs. Another who should appreciate a longer trip is Sparky Gayle, who had little luck in running when third to Home Counties at Haydock last month.

Jimmy Fitzgerald produced a fine training performance when saddling Traingiot to win his first race over hurdles for nearly three years at Newcastle 17 days ago. The nine-year-old battled on stoutly to prevail in a three-way photograph there, and the form was given a timely boost when Cutthroat Kid, a well-beaten fourth in that contest, comfortably won at Ayr yesterday. The well-backed winner of this contest in 1993, TRAINGLOT has again been aimed at the race, and the 10-1 on offer represents a sound each-way wager.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

Ayr

Going: good

1.10 (2m hdle) 1, NORTHERN CHARMER (R Garritty, 4-1); 2, Shonara's Way (A Dobbin, 11-10 fav); 3, Zuboon (M Dwyer, 9-4). ALSO RAN: 9 Cool Tactician, 20 Music Blitz (4th), 50 Jaydelay, Sylvan Celebration (5th), 66 Meadowleck (6th). 8 ran. NR: Baddi Quest, Charity Crusader, Glint Of Ayr, Gold Bits, Jubran, Polly Star, Supreme Soviet. 1l, 2½l, 8l, 14l, 11l. E Alston at Longton. Tote: £4.50; £1.10, £1.70, £1.10. DF: £3.60. Trio: £4.90. CSF: £8.77.

1.40 (2m hdle) 1, STASH THE CASH (A Dobbin, 13-8); 2, Canaan Valley (J Burke, 10-1); 3, Give Best (M Dwyer, 11-8 fav). ALSO RAN: 3 Celebration Cake (4th), 50 Aitchsee-P (6th), Turkish Tower (5th) 6 ran. NR: Astral Weeks, Colorful Ambition, Crackhill Farm, Crystal Gift, Fassen, Highland Way, Martha Buckle, Shrewd Thought. 6l, 7l, 3l, 8l, dist. T Dyer at Invergowrie. Tote: £2.40; £1.10, £2.90. DF: £7.00. Trio. £7.30. CSF: £16.17

2.10 (2m ch) 1, JUST FRANKIE (P Niven, 3-1); 2, Caithness Cloud (B Storey, 5-2); 3, Cross Cannon (T Reed, 6-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Beldine (4th). 4 ran. NR: Port In A Storm, Precipice Run. 8l, 3l, 10l. Mrs M Reveley at Saltburn. Tote: £3.20; £2.80 DF: £3.60. CSF: £10 16.

2.40 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, NAUGHTY FUTURE (A Roche, 10-11 fav); 2, Bold Elect (P Niven, 3-1); 3, Robara (N Leach, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 12 Trespasser (4th), 14 Flower Of Dunblane, 16 Craigie Rambler (5th), 20 Celtic Waters, Fine Tune (6th), 33 Bright Destiny, Bruce-Haven (pu). 10 ran. NR: Ballyallia Castle, Carley Lad, Celtic Giant, David's Way, Kings Lane, Noose Sound. 1l, 11l, hd, 4l, ¾l. J J O'Neill at Penrith. Tote: £1.60; £1.30, £1.80, £2.50. DF: £7.40. Trio: £7.50. CSF: £4.44.

3.10 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, STORMY CORAL (B Storey, 8-11 fav, Thunderer's nap); 2, Rocket Run (A Thornton, 5-1); 3, Gala Water (T Reed, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 6-4 Juke Box Billy (f) 4 ran. NR: East Houston, Finch's Gem, Funny Old Game, Golden Fiddle, Native Mony, Sailor Jim. 15l, 10l. C Parker at Lockerbie. Tote: £1 60; £1.70. DF: £2.20. Trio: £1.40. CSF: £4.79. Tricast: £58.78.

3.40 (2m 4f ch) 1. LOCHNAGRAIN (P Niven, 8-11 fav); 2, Solba (B Storey, 2-1); 3, Rebel King (P Waggott, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 9 White Diamond, 66 Calder's Grove, Grand As Owt. 6 ran. NR: Choisty, Major Bell, Savoy. 4l, 20l. Mrs M Reveley at Saltburn. Tote: £1.50; £1.10, £1.70. DF: £2.00. Trio: £4.00. CSF: £2.65.

4.10 (2m 6f hdle) 1, CUTTHROAT KID (G Cahill, 8-11 fav); 2, Bang In Trouble (M Dwyer, 5-4); 3, Ambleside Harvest (A Roche, 12-1). 3 ran. NR: Abbot Of Furness, Celtic Breeze, Chummy's Saga, Ezadjan. 7l, 10l. Mrs M Reveley at Saltburn. Tote: £1.80. DF: £1.10. CSF: £1.94.

Placepot: £21.50. Quadpot: £8.30.

Southwell

Going: standard

1.30 (1m) 1, CABCHARGE BLUE (J Weaver, 11-1); 2, Karinska (P McCabe, 3-1 fav); 3, Indiahra (F Lynch, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 4 Lilac Rain, 9-2 Little Scarlett, 9 David James' Girl (4th), 10 Apper (6th), 14 Shanghai Lil (5th). 8 ran. NR: Mazilla. 2l, ½l, 1¾l, 1½l, ½l. T Naughton at Epsom. Tote: £17.30; £2.00, £1.60, £1.40. DF: £29.70. Trio: £37.70. CSF: £41.48. Tricast: £158.72.

2.00 (7f) 1, SQUARE DEAL (C Teague, 1-2 fav); 2, Margaretrose Anna (J Fortune, 20-1); 3, Hever Golf Eagle (T Ashley, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Mooncusser (4th), 10 Dr Caligari, 14 Foothill, Rajah (6th), 20 Madam Zando (5th), 33 Brafferton Bells, Royal Dancer. 10 ran. NR: Young Frederick. 4l, 3l, nk, 3l, 7l. S Bowring at Mansfield. Tote: £1.60; £1 10, £4.50, £1.70. DF: £7.60. Trio: £23.70. CSF: £13.25.

2.30 (6f) 1, BOLD ARISTOCRAT (F Lynch, 7-1); 2, Awesome Venture (P McCabe, 7-4 jt-fav); 3, Elton Ledger (J Tate, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 7-4 jt-fav At The Savoy (5th), 10 Legatee (4th). 5 ran. ½l, ¾l, 3½l, 1¾l. R Hollinshead at Upper Longdon. Tote. £9.20; £2.40, £1.10. DF: £9.30. CSF: £18.77.

3.00 (2m) 1, BADAWI (J Quinn, 6-1); 2, Upper Mount Clair (M Larsen, 11-2); 3, Mizyan (J Stack, 13-2). ALSO RAN. 5-1 fav La Menorquina, 13-2 Milngavie, 10 Eulogy (4th), Thatcher's Era, 11 Pride Of May, 12 Tremendisto (5th), 16 Anchorena, Cross Talk, Nordic Sun, 20 Golden Punch (6th). 13 ran. 11l, 4l, 7l, nk, ½l. N Babbage at Cheltenham. Tote: £5.90; £2.10, £3.20, £1.70 DF: £19.80. Trio: £43.20. CSF: £39.19. Tricast: £210.51.

3.30 (6f) 1, STAND TALL (D McKeown, 3-1 fav, Richard Evans's nap); 2, White Sorrel (J Stack, 6-1); 3, Milos (T Ashley, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Encore M'Lady, Southern Dominion (5th), 6 Cretan Gift (4th), 12 Leigh Crofter, 16 Tafahhus (6th), 33 We're Joken. 9 ran. ¾l, hd, sh hd, 6l, ½l. C Thornton at Middleham. Tote: £4.10; £2.20, £2.80, £2.70. DF: £12.30. Trio: £15.90. CSF: £17.68. Tricast: £71.87.

4.00 (1m) 1, BAILIWICK (M Fenton, 8-1); 2, Bumblefoot (J Weaver, 4-1 jt-fav); 3, Efipetite (J Quinn, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 4-1 jt-fav Domettes, 9-2 Be My Bird (6th), Cocoon, 12 Naked Emperor, 14 Snow Domino (5th), 20 Sporting Fantasy (4th) 9 ran. Hd, 1½l, 4l, 3l, ¾l. N Graham at Newmarket. Tote: £11 60; £2.90, £1.40, £1.90. DF: £20 30. Trio: £53.40 CSF £38.22. Tricast: £216.83.

4.30 (1m) 1, IRCHESTER LASS (C Teague, 9-2); 2, The Mestral (P Bloomfield, 10-1); 3, Moody (M Fenton, 5-1). ALSO RAN. 7-2 fav Mill Dancer (4th), 5 Gentle Irony, 13-2 By The Bay (5th), Me Cherokee, 20 Samana Cay, 33 Double Glow (6th). 9 ran. Sh hd, 6l, 5l, hd, 8l. S Bowring at Mansfield. Tote: £6.60; £2.10, £4.30, £3.00. DF: £21.70. Trio. £20.50. CSF: £43.40. Tricast. £211.60.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £39,312.68 carried forward to Lingfield Park today).

Placepot: £82.80. Quadpot: £19.50.

☐ The meeting at Plumpton was abandoned because of frost.

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Musselburgh hopeful of beating the frost

NOTTINGHAM and Leicester have joined a growing casualty list of 55 meetings which have been lost to the weather this season. Nottingham, where racing was scheduled today, was the latest course to lose its battle against frost and snow when it failed an afternoon inspection yesterday.

The racing scheduled for Leicester tomorrow was called off after an inspection yesterday. Nick Lees, clerk of the course, said: "Deep snow and frost on the track show no sign of disappearing in time for the fixture to go ahead."

There will be an inspection at Windsor this morning to decide whether tomorrow's meeting can go ahead. Yesterday's meeting at Plumpton was abandoned earlier in the day because of frost. Cliff Griggs, clerk of the course, was forced to call off the fixture after the temperature dropped to below freezing overnight. Ayr managed to race yesterday, despite frost in certain places on the track delaying the start by a quarter of an hour.

Mark Kershaw who manages Ayr and Musselburgh, is confident that the latter will be able to stage racing today, despite a precautionary inspection this morning. "We have no problems at the track and there is no frost in the ground," he said.

MUSSELBURGH

THUNDERER
1.20 Queens Consul
1.50 Gallardini
2.20 Master Of The Rock
2.50 Houghton
3.20 WILD ROSE OF YORK (nap)
3.50 Farmer's Hand
4.20 Gentle Gambler

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
1.20 EUROLINK THE REBEL.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell P — pulled up U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers V — visor H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner D — distance winner CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race) Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM, FIRM IN PLACES (7.30AM INSPECTION) SIS

1.20 LOGANLEA NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,679: 2m) (12 runners)

1 222-16 QUEENS CONSUL 64 (D,F) (Miss H Davison) B Rothwell 6-11-7 R Supple 95
2 0560 JABAROOT 14 (J Slattery) D Nolan 5-11-5 L Wyer 79
3 P0- LOCH GARMAN 383 (Mrs R Cairns) F Murphy 6-11-5 P Carberry —
4 6R MISTER CASUAL 6 (Mrs D Culhane) W Reed 7-11-5 B Storey 85
5 MOOFAJI 92F (M Hetherington (Packaging) Ltd) F Watson 5-11-5 A Thornton —
6 U06060 MY HANDY MAN 6 (I Bell) R Allan 5-11-5 S Melrose (7) 75
7 64 UNPREJUDICE 18 (BDL Partners) M Hammond 5-11-5 Mr C Bonner (3) 90
8 PP WILD BROOK 80 (Mrs S Bramall) Mrs S Bramall 6-11-5 J Burke —
9 00P-006 CLOVER GIRL 6 (K Brown) B Ellison 5-11-0 B Harding (3) 81
10 24/5 PRINCESS MAXINE 41 (J Clayton) J J O'Neill 7-11-0 A Roche (3) 97
11 165 FRENCH PROJECT 104 (D,F) (Fife Steeplechasing Partnership) Mrs S Bradburne 4-10-9 A Watt (7) —
12 5 EUROLINK THE REBEL 62 (M Shields) M Hammond 4-10-7 A Dobbin [illegible]

BETTING: 7-4 Eurolink The Rebel, 9-4 Queens Consul, 9-2 Unprejudice, 6-1 Princess Maxine, 8-1 French Project, 10-1 Clover Girl, Moofaji, 14-1 others.

1995: THORNTON GATE 6-11-12 L Wyer (3-1) M Easterby 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

QUEENS CONSUL beat Durham Drapes 5l in 6-runner novice hurdle at Haydock (2m, good to firm) on penultimate start. JABAROOT 25l 6th of 13 to Marchant Ming in maiden hurdle over course and distance (good) on penultimate start. MY HANDY MAN about 8¼l 6th of 7 to Friendly Knight in conditional jockeys' selling handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m, good) on penultimate start. UNPREJUDICE 16½l 4th of 13 to Direct Route in maiden hurdle over course and distance (good) with MISTER CASUAL about 8l 6th. CLOVER GIRL 17l 6th of 17 to Meadowbum in novice hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 1f 110yd, good to firm). FRENCH PROJECT about 24l 5th of 7 to Mister Chippy in hurdle at Naas (2m, good). EUROLINK THE REBEL about 12½l 5th of 21 to Wisdom in novice hurdle at Catterick (2m, good to firm).
Selection: EUROLINK THE REBEL

1.50 DALKEITH NOVICES CHASE
(£2,698: 2m) (7 runners)

1 43454-U ANOTHER VENTURE 48 (S) (R Wheeler) F Murphy 6-11-3 P Carberry —
2 04/3-F35 DARK MIDNIGHT 18 (Exors of R Lamb) D Lamb 7-11-3 A Manners —
3 180-525 EUROTWIST 20 (BF,G,S) (Mrs D Kettlewell) S Kettlewell 7-11-3 B Storey —
4 513-044 GALLARDINI 10 (G) (S Hudson) B Rothwell 7-11-3 R Supple [illegible]
5 /82P45 LIVE AND LET LIVE 43 (B) (Mrs C Greig) Miss L Russell 12-11-3 A Thornton 66
6 2-34FF2 PAGLIACCIO 43 (A Stewart) M Hammond 8-11-3 P Niven 88
7 63260F EXPLORE MONDIAL 10 (G Wallace) T Dyer 5-10-7 A Dobbin —

BETTING: 2-1 Gallardini, 3-1 Pagliaccio, 4-1 Eurotwist, 9-2 Explore Mondial, 10-1 Another Venture, 14-1 Dark Midnight, 16-1 Live And Let Live.

1995: WEE RIVER 6-11-10 J Callaghan (4-7 fav) G Moore 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANOTHER VENTURE 10¾l 4th of 14 to Val De Rama in novice hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 1f 110yd, firm) on penultimate start. EUROTWIST 16½l 5th of 10 to Aragon Ayr in claiming hurdle at Kelso (2m 110yd, soft) GALLARDINI 7¾l 4th of 14 to Lord Dorcet in novice chase at Catterick (2m, good) PAGLIACCIO 8l 2nd of 5 to His Way in novice chase here (3m, good).
EXPLORE MONDIAL 27l 8th of 15 to Lintathen in novice handicap hurdle here (2m 4f, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: GALLARDINI

2.20 HARPERRIG HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,238: 3m) (6 runners)

1 12U111 MASTER OF THE ROCK 43 (V,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs S Adams) J Mackie 7-11-10 E Husband (3) 94
2 3122-50 JUST SUPPOSEN 17 (F) (Consultco Ltd) B Rothwell 5-11-2 R Supple 95
3 422314 ABLE PLAYER 17 (C,D,F,G,S) (Miss K Bramall) Mrs S Bramall 9-11-0 J Burke 98
4 020/1/P- TOPFORMER 257 (F) (M Hetherington (Packaging) Ltd) F Watson 9-10-9 A Dobbin —
5 5260-34 THE LAUGHING LORD 41 (F,G,S) (P Russell) Miss L Russell 10-10-7 A Thornton 88
6 10-3355 GERMAN LEGEND 25 (D,F) (D Pryde) D Lamb 6-10-5 A Manners (7) [illegible]

BETTING: 4-5 Master Of The Rock, 3-1 Able Player, 5-1 German Legend, 10-1 Just Supposen, 12-1 The Laughing Lord, 16-1 Topformer.

1995: TRONCHETTO 6-11-11 P Niven (6-1) J J O'Neill 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

MASTER OF THE ROCK completed treble beat Skannon Glen 6l in 5-runner handicap hurdle over course and distance (good). JUST SUPPOSEN about 22¾l 5th of 8 to Brochese Bay in handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start.
ABLE PLAYER beat Forward Glen 3l in 18-runner handicap hurdle at Newcastle (3m, good) on penultimate start, with GERMAN LEGEND (6lb better off) 3l 5th. TOPFORMER beat Luks Akura 10l in 5-runner novice hurdle at Perth (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start, Aug 1993. THE LAUGHING LORD 4¾l 3rd of 7 to Ballindoo in selling handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to firm) on penultimate start.
Selection: MASTER OF THE ROCK (nap)

2.50 KILMANY CUP HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,525: 2m 4f) (6 runners)

1 123U24 HOUGHTON 26 (D,BF,F,G,S) (G Brown) J Howard Johnson 10-12-0. P Carberry 93
2 316-F22 PURITAN 18 (B,CD,F,G,S) (J Parks) N Tinkler 7-11-7 Miss P Jones 94
3 3P-353U WAIT YOU THERE 18 (D,F,G,S) (H Alexander) H Alexander 11-11-0 Mr S Swiers [illegible]
4 5260-34 THE LAUGHING LORD 41 (D,F,G,S) (P Russell) Miss L Russell 10-11-0 DOUBTFUL 94
5 F-0453U RAPID MOVER 18 (B,C,F,G) (Mrs J McFadyen-Murray) D Nolan 9-10-6 L Wyer 94
6 324311 CHARMING GALE 18 (V,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Enerton) Mrs S Bradburne 9-10-8 A Watt (7) 92

BETTING: 9-4 Charming Gale, 11-4 Puritan, 7-2 Rapid Mover, 9-2 Houghton, 13-2 Wait You There.

1995: BOARDING SCHOOL 9-11-5 B Storey (2-1 jt-fav) C Parker 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

HOUGHTON 12l 2nd of 4 to Go Universal in handicap chase at Aintree (2m 4f, good to firm) on penultimate start. PURITAN 3½l 2nd of 6 to Sheraid in handicap chase over course and distance (good) on penultimate start, with RAPID MOVER (1lb better off) 1l 3rd and WAIT YOU THERE (9lb better off) 22l 5th. WAIT YOU THERE 31l 3rd of 6 to Dark Oak in handicap chase at Sedgefield (2m 5f, good to firm) on penultimate start, with HOUGHTON (3lb worse off) 8l 4th. THE LAUGHING LORD 8l 4th of 13 to New Charges in conditional jockeys' selling handicap hurdle at Hexham (3m, good). CHARMING GALE completed double beat PURITAN (3lb better off) 1¾l in 9-runner handicap chase over course and distance (good).
Selection: PURITAN

3.20 WALLYFORD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,490: 2m 4f) (7 runners)

1 113452 WILD ROSE OF YORK 6 (D,F,G) (Mrs M Monteith) P Monteith 5-11-10 G Cahill (7) 98
2 50-0412 BLUE CHARM 18 (CD,F) (Mrs M Lindsay) Mrs S Bradburne 6-11-9. A Dobbin 91
3 535 SAYRAF DANCER 25 (D Tackwell) Mrs A Naughton 7-11-1 M Foster [illegible]
4 00-864 SHREWD THOUGHT 41 (R Green) C Parker 5-10-12 B Storey 87
5 0030 YOUNG STEVEN 18 (B) (A Thurgood) W Kemp 5-10-11 S McDougall 88
6 00/5P2 TRIENNIUM 57 (M Boyd) R Allan 7-10-10 L Wyer 87
7 30P/ KINFAUNS DANCER 1069 (G Brown) Miss L Russell 8-10-6 A Thornton —

BETTING: 11-4 Blue Charm, 7-2 Wild Rose Of York, 9-2 Triennium, 11-2 Sayraf Dancer, 6-1 Shrewd Thought, 10-1 others.

1995: TALOS 7-10-6 D J Moffatt (8-1) D Moffatt 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

WILD ROSE OF YORK 3l 2nd of 17 to Orchidarma in selling handicap hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 1f 110yd, good to firm).
BLUE CHARM 4l 2nd of 15 to Lintathen in novice handicap hurdle over course and distance (good) with YOUNG STEVEN (5lb better off) 17l 7th. Previously beat TRIENNIUM (8lb better off) 5l in 8-runner novice handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to firm) SAYRAF DANCER about 7¼l 5th of 18 to Tom Brodie in novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m, good). SHREWD THOUGHT 37l 6th of 11 to Penny A Day in novice hurdle at Kelso (2m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start, with YOUNG STEVEN (1lb better off) 9l 8th. YOUNG STEVEN 25l 3rd of 15 to Blaze Away in maiden hurdle over course and distance (good) on penultimate start.
Selection: BLUE CHARM

3.50 PENICUIK NOVICES CHASE
(£2,950: 3m) (5 runners)

1 445/021 GRAND SCENERY 43 (C,G) (St'chasing Part'ship) J Howard Johnson 8-11-11 P Carberry 88
2 /P615-0 OVERWHELM 235 (D,G) (Lady Watford) V Thompson 8-11-11 Mr M Thompson —
3 PP/2 FARMER'S HAND 48 (R Morton) B Ellison 9-11-5 B Harding (3) [illegible]
4 02 MERRY ROSE 43 (The Braw Partnership) M Hammond 6-11-5 Mr C Bonner (3) 93
5 PP05-30 SAND KING 25 (V,F) (Miss L Russell) Miss L Russell 10-11-5 A Thornton —

BETTING: 7-4 Merry Rose, 2-1 Grand Scenery, 11-4 Farmer's Hand, 10-1 Overwhelm, 12-1 Sand King.

1995: COUNTORUS 9-11-5 A Maguire (4-1) J Johnson 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

GRAND SCENERY beat MERRY ROSE (6lb better off) 1¾l in 9-runner amateur riders' maiden chase here (2m 4f, good). OVERWHELM 49l 7th of 14 to Belyara in extended handicap hurdle at Dundalk (2m 4f 110yd, firm). FARMER'S HAND 4l 2nd of 5 to Forbidden Time in novice chase at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm). SAND KING 7l 3rd of 13 to New Charges in conditional jockeys' selling handicap hurdle at Hexham (3m, good).
Selection: GRAND SCENERY

4.20 TRIPLEPRINT STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,551: 2m) (13 runners)

1 BASINCROFT (H Johnson) Miss S Williamson 6-11-5 D Ryan (7) —
2 4-30 HIGHLAND SPIN 45 (Laurel (Leisure) Ltd) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-5 R Hodge —
3 PIPES OF PAN (H Johnson Jr) Miss S Williamson 6-11-5 A Thornton —
4 00 BOWLAND PARK 10 (Mrs S Barclay) E Alston 5-11-0 L Wyer —
5 CELTIC COMMA (Miss R Jeffreys) W Reed 5-11-0 M Moloney —
6 GENTLE GAMBLER (J Bader) R Allan 5-11-0 S Melrose (7) —
7 HILDA'S PET (P McMahon) R McKellar 6-11-0 G Cahill (7) —
8 LEIGHTEN LASS (Mrs S Corbett) J Charlton 5-11-0 B Storey —
9 CHIEF OF KHORASSAN (Middleham Park Racing II) S Kettlewell 4-10-7 S Parritt (7) —
10 COLONEL GEORGE (Mrs S Bell) Mrs S Bramall 4-10-7 J Burke —
11 JUST LIKE DAD (E Briggs) M Todhunter 4-10-7 B Harding (3) —
12 0 WAR WHOOP 10 (G Reed) C Thornton 4-10-7 N Horrocks (7) —
13 WHITEHILL FLYER (Whitehill Welfare FC) P Monteith 4-10-7 A Dobbin —

BETTING: 9-4 Highland Spin, 6-1 Colonel George, 7-1 Celtic Comma, 8-1 Chief Of Khorassan, Gentle Gambler, 10-1 War Whoop, 12-1 others.

1995: TOM BRODIE 5-11-5 A Maguire (2-1 fav) J Johnson 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

HIGHLAND SPIN 10l 3rd of 18 to Peace Lord in maiden National Hunt Flat race at Market Rasen (1m 5f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. BOWLAND PARK 32l 14th of 20 to Swanbister in National Hunt Flat race at Haydock (2m, good) on penultimate start. WAR WHOOP 43l 7th of 21 to Gods Squad in maiden National Hunt Flat race at Catterick (3m, good) with BOWLAND PARK 25l 13th.
Selection: HIGHLAND SPIN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wnrs	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Tinkler	9	29	31.0	A Watt	3	7	42.9
Mrs M Reveley	15	53	28.3	Mr C Bonner	4	14	28.6
C Thornton	4	15	26.7	Mr S Swiers	3	11	27.3
J J O'Neill	4	17	23.5	P Niven	11	59	18.6
M Hammond	22	102	21.6	B Storey	17	113	15.0
C Parker	8	38	21.1	R Hodge	4	29	13.8

Blinkered first time

LINGFIELD PARK: 2.40 Double Jeopardy. MUSSELBURGH: 1.50 Live and Let Live. 2.50 Puritan. 3.50 Sand King.

IN BRIEF

McMillan has point to prove

COLIN McMILLAN, the former World Boxing Organisation featherweight champion, sets out tonight on his campaign to prove that he is still a name to respect (Srikumar Sen writes). After six months without work, McMillan has decided to box for nothing at the Broadway Theatre, Barking.

He meets Justin Murphy, of Brighton, who has a record of seven wins out of ten. McMillan is hoping to gain support for a bout with Naseem Hamed.

Johnson returns

Basketball: Magic Johnson, who retired in 1991 after being diagnosed with the virus that causes Aids, has signed a contract with the Los Angeles Lakers for the remainder of the season. He plays against Golden State tonight.

Chaloner's place

Squash: Mark Chaloner, of England, has been handed the eighth place in the Super Series final, that will move from Switzerland to the Galleria Shopping Centre in Hatfield, Hertfordshire from March 21 to 24.

O'Sullivan loses

Snooker: Ronnie O'Sullivan was surprisingly beaten 5-4 by Billy Snaddon, after being 4-2 ahead, in the second round of the Regal Welsh Open in Newport yesterday.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL
Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
Sunderland v Tranmere
Second division
Brentford v Wycombe (7.45)
Burnley v Oxford Utd
Third division
Barnet v Torquay (7.45)
(9.30 pitch inspection)
Darlington v Preston (7.45)
Exeter v Hartlepool (7.45)
Fulham v Scunthorpe (7.45)
Gillingham v Mansfield (7.45)
Northampton v Plymouth (7.45)
(12.30 pitch inspection)
Wigan v Colchester (7.45)
Anglo-Italian Cup
Semi-final
Birmingham v West Bromwich (7.45)
Auto Windscreens Shield
Semi-finals
Northern section
Carlisle v Chesterfield (7.45)
Rotherham v York
Southern section
Peterborough v Bristol Rovers (7.45)
Vauxhall Conference
Farnborough v Dover (7.45) P
Macclesfield v Altrincham (7.45)
Northwich v Bromsgrove (7.45)
Telford v Kidderminster (7.45)
Tennents Scottish Cup
Third round
Clyde v Dundee P
Clydebank v Stirling
Dumbarton v Airdrie
Falkirk v Stenhousemuir
Motherwell v Aberdeen (7.45)
Bell's Scottish League
Second division
Berwick v Forfar

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Burton. Midland division: Evesham v Redditch. Dr Martens Cup: Fourth round: Crawley v Baldock; Hinckley Town v Moor Green.
ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Sutton United v Purfleet. Postponed: Dulwich v Hayes. First division: Maidenhead United v Thame, Uxbridge v Billericay; Staines v Abingdon Town. Second division: Banstead v Croydon, Wivenhoe v Bracknell. Third division: Aveley v Hertford. Carlton Trophy: Third round: Canvey Island v Clapton; Hungerford v Hampton; Northwood v Wealdstone Carlton Trophy: Third round replay: Tilbury v East Thurrock. Guardian Insurance Cup: Third round: Aylesbury v Carshalton. Fourth round: Aldershot Town v Basingstoke.
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Barrow v Bishop Auckland; Buxton v Matlock.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION (2.0): First division: Chelsea v Swindon (at Stamford Bridge). Second division: Plymouth v Bournemouth.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Derby County v Bolton Wanderers (7.0); Sheffield United v Newcastle United. Second division: Manchester City v Barnsley (6.45).
LEAGUE OF WALES: Llansantffraid v Holywell.
CALOR COUNTY ANTRIM SHIELD FINAL: Crusaders v Glenavon (at The Oval, Belfast).
COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford v Bedfont; Godalming and Guildford v Farnham; Horley v Chipstead, Merstham v Raynes Park Vale.
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Elmore v Mangotsfield; Paulton R v Bristol Manor Farm.
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Kidsgrove v Mossley
BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Cradley Town v Ettingshall HT. Premier Division Cup: Quarter-final replay: Walsall Wood v Wolverhampton C.
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Tiptree v Newmarket.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Goole v Glasshoughton Welfare.
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Folkestone Invicta v Ramsgate. First division Cup: Third round replay: Whitstable v Chatham.
SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ards v Bangor.

RUGBY UNION
Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
Club matches
Bath v Cardiff C
Cross Keys v Llanelli (7.0)
Dunvant v Swansea (7.0)
Maesteg v Penarth (7.0)
Tondu v Treorchy (7.0)
Wasps v Loughborough Stds C
WRU midweek competition
Pool C
Caerphilly v Llanharan (7.0)
Tennents championship
regional League
East one
Edinburgh Wanderers v Currie (7.30)
HART GILMORE FOUR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Postponed: Shropshire v Derbyshire.

RUGBY LEAGUE
Silk Cut Challenge Cup
Fourth round
Keighley v Barrow P
JJB SPORTS ACADEMY INTERNATIONAL: Postponed: Great Britain Academy v France

OTHER SPORT
SNOOKER: Regal Welsh Open (Newport).

Cowboys steal initiative with Pittsburgh poised for upset

Dallas delight as good guys blow it

Oliver Holt sees the team Americans love to hate win once again in Phoenix

They put Super Bowl XXX on in the Wild West and then laid it at the feet of the man with the pioneer's beard. If it had been a John Ford film, Neil O'Donnell, the Pittsburgh Steelers' quarterback, would have ridden off into the sunset with it; instead, he shot it full of holes.

The cowboys' star waned long ago out here and, late in the fourth quarter on Sunday evening, with the sun setting behind the red rocks on the edge of the Arizona desert, O'Donnell seemed to have Dallas at his mercy in front of the 80,000 crowd in the Sun Devil Stadium.

In a battle that had been hyped as a struggle between good and evil, it seemed that right was about to triumph — but then the good guys blew it and Dallas prevailed.

When the mistake came, it was so abject that it was hard to believe. Four minutes and 68 yards stood between the Steelers and one of the biggest shocks of recent Super Bowl history when O'Donnell, one of nine children from a New Jersey family, hurled the ball into the one area of the field bereft of Pittsburgh players and straight into the arms of a surprised Larry Brown, a Dallas cornerback who is still recovering from the death of his baby son.

Brown, who had already intercepted a more forgivably wayward O'Donnell pass midway through the third quarter and was later named the game's most valuable player, was pushed out of bounds before he could reach the Steelers' end-zone; but, two plays later, Emmitt Smith, the Cowboys' relentless running back, waltzed in for his second touchdown of the match.

With the extra point for the conversion, it was 27-17 to Dallas and the game, one of the most evenly matched of recent times, was over.

The victory was Dallas Cowboys' third Super Bowl triumph in four years and establishes them beyond doubt as the team of the Nineties. It was sweet vindication for Jerry Jones, their owner, and for Barry Switzer, the embattled coach whom he hired to replace Jimmy Johnson after the second of those wins.

It was another victory, too, for the new America over the old, the America of stretch limousines and corporate entertainment, brash and loud, over its fading blue-collar *alter ego*, a place of rusting steel mills and declining population. When its citizens look at the Cowboys, they see bright images of what they would like to be. When they see Pittsburgh Steelers, determined but vulnerable, they see what they are.

For all their arrogance and extravagance, though, it is hard to criticise the Cowboys. The personality players proved that they could turn it on, too, when it came to prime time; but, this was a game that was lost and not won, a game that will be remembered for its glorious failure.

The Pittsburgh players refused to blame O'Donnell afterwards and Bill Cowher, his coach, a hulk of a man with a jutting chin and a hair-trigger temper, even said that he was proud of him. Yet everyone knew that it was O'Donnell's fault and his sunken eyes and halting attempts at self-justification told their own story.

"There's no tomorrow, and that's the tough thing about this," O'Donnell said. "I'm just trying to make things happen out there. I'm just Neil O'Donnell. On the first interception, the ball just got away from me. It just slipped totally out of my hand. Those things happen.

"The second time, there was a little miscommunication between me and the wide receivers, but we're all in this thing together. You can't just single out one individual and say that was the reason why we lost this football game."

In this case, though, the two interceptions were the only difference between the teams. Although the Cowboys had streaked into a 13-0 lead early in the second quarter, courtesy of a Novacek touchdown, two Boniol field goals and big plays from top performers like the mercurial Deion Sanders, Troy Aikman, the quarterback, and Michael Irvin, a wide receiver, the Steelers recovered their composure.

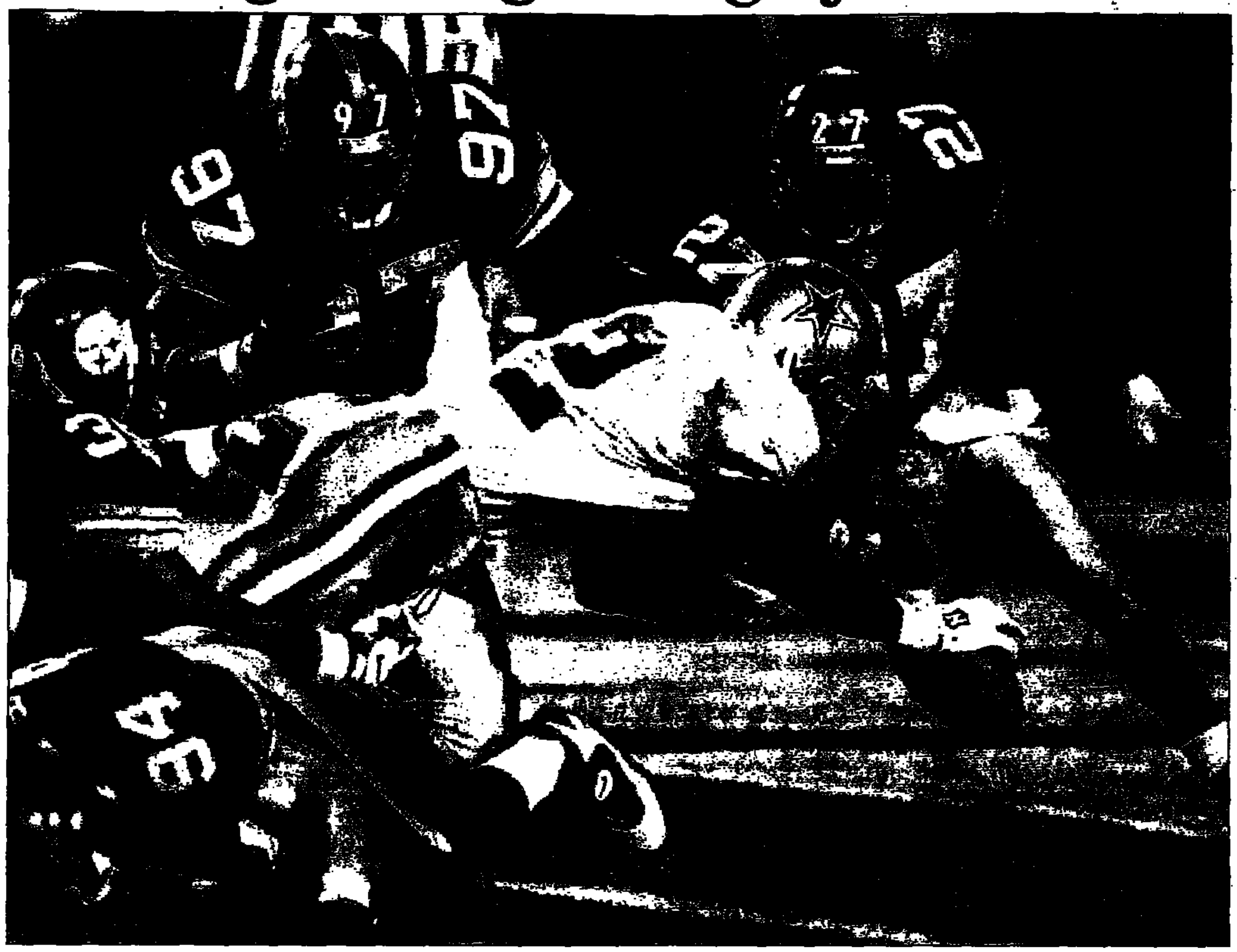
Playing in their first Super Bowl since 1980, and urged on by supporters twirling the yellow "terrible towels" that have become their symbol this season, Pittsburgh duly reduced the arrears to six points with just 17 seconds of the first half remaining, when O'Donnell's pass from six yards out was caught in the Dallas end-zone by Thigpen.

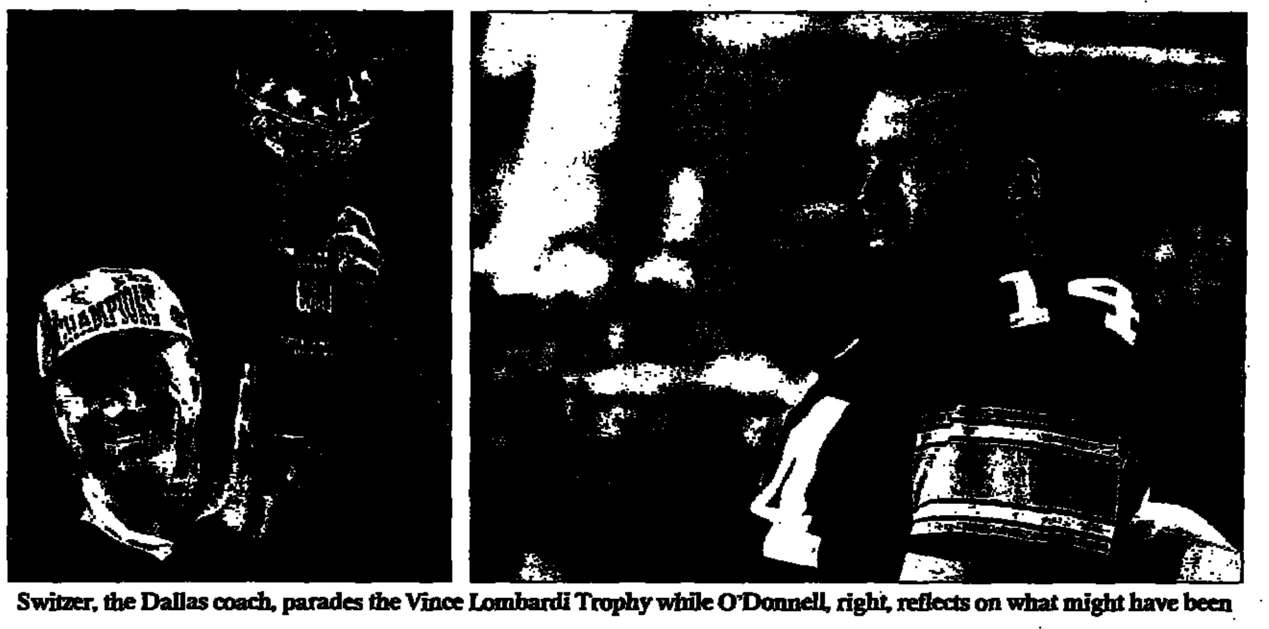
In the third quarter, Brown's first interception and an Aikman pass to Irvin set up Smith for a one-yard touchdown run that restored the Cowboys' 13-point lead; but then the Steelers' defence, that had kept Smith relatively quiet throughout the game, bottled up the Dallas offence entirely and Pittsburgh got their own running game going.

Johnson kicked a fine 46-yard field goal early in the final quarter and then produced a clever onside kick-off that fooled the Cowboys and allowed the Steelers to retain possession. Nearly five minutes later, Morris, the Steelers' running back, made a one-yard touchdown run to bring his team to within three points of their opponents and the stage was set for O'Donnell.

After the game, two American heroes of their age talked to each other on the phone. Switzer, the son of an Arkansas bootlegger, made the running with President Clinton.

"We did it our way tonight," the Dallas coach said, "and you are doing it your way. We're behind you because you're a winner and a champion. Appreciate you being a Cowboy fan, an old boy from Arkansas."


Smith, the Dallas running back, dives to make his second touchdown of Super Bowl XXX on Sunday night. Photograph: Mike Blake


Switzer, the Dallas coach, parades the Vince Lombardi Trophy while O'Donnell, right, reflects on what might have been

Britain hockey squad to turn up heat for Atlanta

Plans for dealing with high temperatures at the Olympics may prove critical, says **Sydney Friskin**

Whitaker: changes

THE Great Britain men's hockey team returned to London yesterday with Olympic hopes high after finishing third in the qualifying tournament in Barcelona. Since October, the team has gone 17 international matches unbeaten, including seven in the qualifying tournament. Britain might not have been the best team, but they were easily the fittest.

That fitness will soon be put to the test again, despite the assertion by David Whitaker, the Britain coach, that "we shall have a month's rest and start all over again." The players will be back in action this weekend, with five Hockey Association Cup matches to be played on Saturday, followed by a full national league programme on Sunday.

Calum Giles, who finished the tournament with eight goals, was second only to Taco van den Honert, of Holland, who scored 12. The system that permits a player to sit through a match and enter the field only to take the short corners has its detractors. There is nothing anyone can do, however, as long as the rules permit each of the five substitutes on the bench to come and go as they please.

It is sour grapes on the part of those who have failed, or have not even tried to exploit the situation, as Britain have.

In the months that lie ahead, adjustments to the team will probably be made if Russell Garcia and Julian Halls are restored to full fitness. Consideration will also have to be given to Phillip McGuire, who has been out of action for several months with a back injury.

With Germany, India and Pakistan in pool A for the Olympic Games in Atlanta this summer, Britain were happy to be placed in pool B when the draw was made on Sunday, where Holland, Australia and South Korea will be the main obstacles.

Nothing has been seen of South Korea on the international circuit of late, but they will be in Atlanta for a six-nation tournament in April. The other participating countries are Britain, India, Argentina, Pakistan and the United States. Britain have no record against South Korea, but England played and beat them 3-1 in the 1994 World Cup at Sydney.

By the time that the Games open, on July 20, the temperature in Atlanta, according to Alva Serrette, the organiser of the Olympic hockey series, will have risen to the mid-80s. Whitaker has accepted an invitation to play in the Azlan Shah tournament at Ipoh, Malaysia, in May — which is one of the hottest months of the year in that country — as an essential part of the preparation. Matches will be played in the evenings, but humidity will still be high, much as expected in Atlanta.

There are other commitments for Britain, including the four-nation tournament from June 13 to 16 at Milton Keynes, where they face Germany, Holland and Pakistan.

Hockey's offside rule will be scrapped for an experimental period of 12 months from August 5 in a move to make the game more attractive for spectators. Two other experimental international rules will also be brought in during August, covering changes at free hits, hit-ins and corners, and to the taking of long corners.

THE TIMES
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	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Obergurgl	40	90	good	powder	good	sun	-6	27/1
	(Excellent skiing on powdery snow)							
Saalbach	25	50	fair	crust	art	sun	0	27/1
	(Pistes skiing well; hard at first, soft by lunch)							
Schladming	20	42	fair	crust	art	fine	0	28/1
	(Soft surface on hard base; all runs open)							
Sölt	10	55	good	varied	closed	sun	-1	27/1
	(Mostly good because of recent snowfall)							
FRANCE								
Megève	0	60	fair	varied	worn	sun	5	26/1
	(All but lowest runs icy/worn; snow machines in use)							
Val d'Isère	50	110	good	varied	worn	sun	2	24/1
	(Good skiing at altitude; lowest runs icy/worn)							
ITALY								
Cervinia	100	300	good	powder	good	snow	-8	29/1
	(Superb powder skiing but very poor visibility)							
SWITZERLAND								
Grindelwald	0	30	fair	crust	closed	fine	-1	7/1
	(Some good snow at altitude; walking paths open)							
Villars	5	50	fair	moguls	closed	fine	4	7/1
	(Open pistes still skiing well despite icy patches)							

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper.

Answers from page *40*

MANDATIVE

(a) Pertaining to command. Occasionaly used in serious grammar to render the Latin *modus mandativus*, denoting the imperative use of the future. This use should be avoided by all except professional grammarians of a solemn nature. "Though servants have not a mandative power to lay their strict injunctions upon their Masters."

MINUTIOUS

(b) Attentive to minutiae, characterised by minute attention to detail, unlike a daily newspaper. "There comes a point in the evening, Philip, when you must stop being minutious and think about getting the edition out in time for the trucks to Inverness and Penzance."

LEAMING

(c) Shining, gleaming, flashing (of light), dialect from northern England and obsolete. "Like a shipwrecked stranger in a lighthouse, I have looked down upon the utter side/ Of such thoughts from the leaming room of reason."

MANTELET

(c) A kind of short, loose, sleeveless cape, cloak or mantle covering the shoulders, the diminutive of OF *mantel*, modern French *manteau*. "Mantelets composed of feathers, so beautifully arranged, as even our English ladies would not disdain to wear."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Re8! Qxe8 (1. ... Qxh6; 2. Rxg8 mate); 2. Nf6 winning the black queen.

RADIO CHOICE

A whale of a lesson

The 1996 Reith Lectures — Jean Aitchison. *Radio 4, 8.30pm.*

There is something ingratiatingly down-to-earth about Jean Aitchison, whose Reith lectures begin on February 6; and it is not just because, being Rupert Murdoch Professor of Language and Communications at Oxford, she has predictably been dubbed "Holder of the Gotcha! Chair of Page 3 Studies". Language changes do not worry her. If humpbacked whales can alter their songs every year, she argues, why should not we be just as flexible with words? She thinks that swearing can be socially beneficial and, less radically, that schoolchildren should be taught not to speak to babies and bus conductors in the same way. Professor John Wells, her interviewer, sometimes sounds slightly alarmed at her unorthodoxy.

Evening Concert. *Classic FM, 8.00pm.*

Know the music, know the composer. The maxim holds good in most cases. It is regularly acknowledged by John Julius Norwich, whose Classic FM slot is one of the strengths of the station's evening output. Tonight, Norwich has a rare chance to add a codicil to the maxim: know the music, know the person to whom it is dedicated. I hope that he will fully exploit that relationship. The works that he has chosen include Beethoven's Piano Trio Op 97, dedicated to the composer's friend and patron Rudolph, Archduke of Austria, and Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No 5, one of six commissioned by a nobleman who then proceeded to treat them most shabbily.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Clive Warren **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, incl at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat and **1.15** The Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, incl at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat and at **6.00** The Net **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Cling Film **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **Midnight** Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce, incl at **10.00** Pick of the Hits **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hayes over Britain **8.30** Penmarric, by Susan Howatch (3/6) **9.00** On Wings of Song. Singer Kathleen Ferrier **10.00** Alter Egos. Valerie Solti talks to Michael Tilson Thomas (4/6) **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00-6.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl **6.55**, **7.55** racing preview **8.35** The Magazine, incl **10.35** Euronews **11.30** Dirty News **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl **12.34pm** Moneycheck **1.15** Entertainment News **2.05pm** Ruscoe on Five, incl **3.15** Prime Minister's Question Time **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra **7.35** The Tuesday Match **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra, incl **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sedny Warr **7.00** Simon Bates **10.00** Jonathan King **12.00** Tommy Boyd **2.00pm** Anna Raeburn **4.00** Scott Chisholm **7.00** Sean Bolger **9.00** Moz Dee **10.00** James Whale **1.00-6.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **5.00am** Newsday **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Off the Shelf **7.30** New Ideas **7.50** The Planets **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Concert Hall **9.00** News in German **9.15** Just a Minute **9.45** Sport **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Thirty-Minute Drama **12.00** News **12.05pm** Business **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Pick of the World **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Multitrack: Hit List **3.00** News in German **3.15** On Screen **3.30** Omnibus **4.00** News **4.15** The World Today **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Sport **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** News in German **7.00** News Summary **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** Megamix **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** Business **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Meridian **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** World Today **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.10** Invitation to the Dance **11.15** Anything Goes **11.45** Country Style **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** What's News? **12.45** Britain Today **1.00** News **1.10** Press **1.15** On Screen **1.30** The Story of Western Music **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Andy Kershaw **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Discovery **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata **7.00** The Opera Guide **8.00** Evening Concert See Choice **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00-6.00am** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air Sibelius (Lemminkainen in Tuonela, Legends); Beethoven (Sonata in D); Bach (Orchestral Suite No 3 in D); Kuhnau (Biblical Sonata No 1, The Combat between David and Goliath); **8.05** Schubert, arr Webern (Six German Dances); Saint-Saëns (Symphony No 2 in A minor)

9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Schein (Suite No 16 in A minor); Liszt (Paraphrase on Verdi's *Rigoletto*); Puccini (O mio babbino caro, Gianni Schicci); Mozart (Violin Concerto No 2 in D); Bach (Italian Concerto in F)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris de Souza. *Artist of the Week*: Philip Fowke, piano, plays Bliss (Bliss, A One-Step); Vaughan Williams (Valiant for Truth); Shortall (Fanfare for Those Who Will Not Return); Busoni (Chamber Fantasy on Themes from *Carmen*); Blacher (Partita for strings and percussion); Alma Mahler (Hymne); Schubert (12 Valses nobles); **11.01** Alma Mahler (Ekstase); Tchaikovsky (The Tempest); Verdi (Ave Maria; Stabat Mater, Quattro pezzi sacri); Prokofiev (Piano Concerto No 1 in D flat)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Janáček (Rikadie; The Cunning Little Vixen, Act 2 part 2)

1.00pm The BBC Orchestras. BBC Philharmonic under Alexander Gibson (r)

2.00 Schools. Playtime **2.15** Time to Move **2.35** Listen!

3.00 Veracini Violinist. The life and works of the 18th-century composer

3.35 Ulster Orchestra under Leos Svarovsky. Smetana (Richard III); Schoenberg (Cello Concerto, after Monn's Keyboard Concerto in D: Robert Cohen); Bruch (Kol Nidrei); Bruckner (Symphony in F minor, Study Symphony)

5.00 The Music Machine in New Orleans. With Sarah Walker

5.15 In Tune, presented by David Owen Norris

7.30 Britten Plus. Thomas Allen, baritone, Malcolm Martineau, piano, perform Wolf (Fussreise, Nimmersatte Liebe; Verborgenheit, Gebet; Der Tambour, Mörike Lieder); Mahler (Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen; Liebst du um Schönheit; Serenade; Der Tambourg'sell; Rheinlegendchen); Britten (Tit for Tat, The Salley Gardens; Little Sir William; O Waly, Waly; The Plough Boy)

9.00 Cultural Baggage: Community. The history and significance of cultural phenomena (7/20)

9.20 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Denis Cohen performs Stravinsky (Suite, The Firebird); Takemitsu (Rain Coming); Lyell Cresswell (A Modern Ecstasy)

10.45 Night Waves. Christopher Cook presents reviews of *Les Enfants du Paradis*

11.30-12.30am Music Restored: Radio 3 Early Music Invitation Concerts. Frottola performs English love songs by Dowland and Campion

1.00-1.40 Night School. Dance for PE

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW only) **6.00** News Briefing, incl weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross: 0171-580 444

10.00-10.30 News; Crimescapes (FM only). Leslie Forbes visits the Sardinian city of Sassari with the crime novelist Salvatore Mannuzzu (5/6)

10.00 Daily Service (LW only)

10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)

10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Jenni Murray

11.30 Medicine Now, presented by Geoff Watts

12.00 News; You and Yours

12.25pm Word of Mouth. What happens when the name of a product means different things in different languages? (2/6) **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Space Fictions: Take Me to Your Leader. Dr John Gribbin discusses the paradoxes of creating a convincing alien (3/4)

2.30 Kaleidoscope Feature. The conductor Bernard Haitink talks about his opera repertoire and his association with the European Union Youth Orchestra (r)

3.00 The Afternoon Shift. Ray Brown meets a father and son who run a junk shop

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Vaughan presents reviews *Two Trains Running* by August Wilson at the Tricycle Theatre, and *Children of Darkness and Light*, a book by Nicholas Mosley about sightings of the Virgin Mary in Cumbria

4.45 Short Story: Alphabet Moon, written and read by Jeff Noon

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 Any Other Business. Sit-com by Lucy Flannery about local government (3/6) (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 File on 4. Mark Whitaker reports

8.00 Science Now, presented by Peter Evans

8.30 The 1996 Reith Lectures — Jean Aitchison: The Reith Lecturer Interview. See Choice

9.00 In Touch. Peter White with news, views and information for the visually impaired

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Love in the Time of Cholera, by Gabriel García Márquez (12/15)

11.00 Mediumwave. The week in the media (r)

11.30-12.00 The Street (FM only): The Podium, Barbican. The second of six programmes (r)

11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)

12.00 News, incl 12.27am Weather

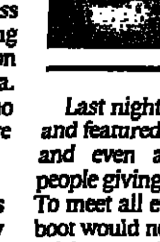
12.30 The Late Book: The Drowned World. Nicholas Farrell reads J.G. Ballard's classic adventure. Abridged by Oliver Reynolds (7/10)

12.48 Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO UK.** MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by **Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith** and **Susan Thomson**

هكذا من الأصل

No messing about with the sport of princes



Peter Barnard

A millionaire is what a billionaire becomes after about five years in sailing, an activity never better described in its British context than as the equivalent of standing under a shower tearing up £20 notes.

Nothing daunted, those of us who go down to the sea in ships, only to find the ship's engine will not start, know ourselves to be part of a great tradition: heart of glassfibre are our ships, jolly long-suffering are our wives.

Given that hardly does yet another marina declare itself open before every berth is occupied by gleaming evidence that experience is no match for hope, television is miserly in its exploitation of this island race and its love of the sea.

So **Classic Ships** (Channel 4) would be a welcome series even if it was not much good. Happily it is much better than that and began last night with *Britannia*: not the beautiful *Britannia* that the footling nitwits who run our affairs now deem redundant, but the even more beautiful *Britannia* that was the first Royal Yacht, launched in 1893.

That *Britannia*, a seminal concept that still influences yachting, was a magnificent creature built for the Prince of Wales. He raced her with spectacular success until an encounter at Cowes which Monty Python would have been hard put to invent. The same race meeting was attended by the German Kaiser but you could easily tell the two apart: *whereas the Kaiser spoke perfect English, the Prince of Wales had an almost impenetrable German accent.*

The Kaiser insulted one of the Prince of Wales's mistresses (one of? Yes, but there were no tabloids then). The Prince went off in a huff, taking his *Britannia* with him. The boat was not raced again for 25 years.

Which was a pity, for by then people with even ghastlier accents than the Prince of Wales, known as Americans, were developing newfangled yachts made of steel and alloy. But the dye was cast and *Britannia* had cast it: the vessel launched a 40-year golden era of yachting and set light to a passion for sailing.

Of course not every Briton spends every spare moment smiling like an idiot at the matchless sound of a diesel engine ticking over as if Mozart had turned up on the quayside with a full orchestra. *There are deluded souls who would rather spend their spare time trying to start the car.*

The series **Trade Secrets** (BBC2) is part of a relatively recent trend in television which involves ten-minute programmes; that is to say, programmes run at their natural length rather than dragged out to 40 minutes or an hour.

Last night's was to do with cars and featured a string of mechanics and even a couple of normal people giving little titbits of advice. To meet all eventualities one's car boot would need to contain a large brick, quantities of silver paper, several jubilee clips and an empty drinks can, but some tips involved no materials at all.

For example, if you happen to leave the lights on for a few hours and flatten the battery, did you know that if you switch off the lights and leave the car for 20 minutes it will probably start? Well there you are. And (topical section) if the door lock is frozen try heating up the key with a lighter or a match. If you don't have either, find a smoker: we are always delighted to meet someone who still needs us.

The large brick? I knew you would ask. *The brick is for removing wheel nuts. You place the wheelbrace over the nut and rest the handle of the brace on the brick. You stand on the centre section of the brace. Soon you will hear a gratifying crunch. If the wheel nut has not moved, your ankle is broken.*

I particularly wanted to review **Horizon: Nature's Numbers** (BBC2) because it was a programme about the environment that promised not to mention the ozone layer or global warming. Instead it was about species: how fast are we wiping them out?

Answer came there none. I trekked dutifully through the Amazon rainforest behind a party of biologists and the like. From time to time one of them plunged into the undergrowth and emerged with a bat or a lizard or a frog which they put in a bag.

The consensus seemed to be that there is no consensus. Or rather, the consensus among field workers that we are *wiping out species at a terrible rate is challenged by a consensus among statisticians that we are not. This does more for argument than it does for enlightenment.*

What I wanted to challenge was the statement that species can be counted. What, all of them? The counters say that they can count every living thing in an area, reaching conclusions based on the Species/Area Curve, developed 30 years ago when two scientists counted all the species on a Florida mangrove island, then had them all wiped out by an American, a sort of one-man Rentokil, and then waited. All the species returned.

Next, they reduced the size of the island with a pair of shears (I may have invented the shears) and found that for every 50 per cent reduction in the land area, you reduce the species by 15 per cent.

How can they be sure? If you were a species that saw a pair of shears chomping in your direction, would you, er, stand up to be counted? What about the species that had gone away on holiday? And the ones that had gone to school inside a tree?

All of which is a convenient excuse not to worry about the environment until such time as all the loopholes are closed, a status which is several hundred *Horizons* away.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (61924)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (29437092)

9.10 Kilroy (s) (2573653)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (4390419) **10.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (s) (6710740)

10.30 Good Morning (s) (42721)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (6856721) **12.05pm Pebble Mill**(s) (9094127) **12.50 Regional News** and weather (13799382)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (95382)

1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (64868108)

1.50 Banacek (2143653)

3.05 Timekeepers (s) (5228837)

3.30 Arts in Your Pants (s) (1522108) **3.50 ChuckleVision** (s) (1535672) **4.10 Free Willy** (Ceefax) (s) (7819635) **4.35 Run the Risk** (Ceefax) (s) (9582837) **5.00 Newsround** (Ceefax) (4957059) **5.10 Grange Hill** (Ceefax) (s) (7191450)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (625450) **N.I.: 5.35** Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (363)

6.30 Regional News magazines (943) **N.I.: 6.30** Neighbours **6.57** Inside Ulster News

7.00 Holiday Jill Dando in St Tropez; Carol Smillie and Kirsty Young on an Australian adventure; Lady Tebbit takes a trip to Tiberias in Israel with her wheelchair (Ceefax) (s) (2301)

7.30 EastEnders. David agrees to pay for Bianca's wedding (Ceefax) (s) (127)

8.00 Great Ormond Street. With only six beds in the unit, every day is a juggling act for the staff of the rheumatology department. (Ceefax) (s) (8721)

8.30 Next of Kin Maggie, Andrew and the children go on holiday but the only way they can afford to get to France is to go camping (Ceefax) (s) (7856)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5856)

9.30 Men Behaving Badly. Why has Deborah agreed to spend the night with Tony? (Ceefax) (s) (16617) **WALES: 9.30** Week In Week Out (16617)

10.00 The X Files. Calusari. FBI agents Mulder and Scully investigate the paranormal. (Ceefax) (s) (199905)

10.40 Inside Story. Caroline's Baby — Update. Since September 1994 Caroline Beale has been a prisoner in New York, accused of murdering her newborn baby and trying to smuggle the body through JFK airport. The film follows the defence and prosecution lawyers and Caroline herself as they all prepare for court (Ceefax) (s) (914301) **N.I.: 10.40** On Air **11.30** Inside Story **12.25am** Film: Hound of the Baskervilles **1.50** Weather **WALES: 10.40** Men Behaving Badly (736769) **11.05** Inside Story (519030) **12.00am** FILM: A Chorus Line (978764) **1.55** News and weather (2797986)

11.35 FILM: A Chorus Line (1985) Musical starring Michael Douglas. A group of hopefuls audition at a Broadway theatre for a new show. Directed by Richard Attenborough (Ceefax) (s) (149566)

1.30am Weather (2778851)

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BBC2

6.00am Business and Work

7.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax) (6817127)

7.15 Lassie (r) (3931905) **7.40 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles** (r) (7088160) **8.05 Blue Peter** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (5048276)

8.35 The Record. Yesterday in Parliament (s) (9222011) **9.00 The History Man** visits Little Moreton Hall (r) (6172721)

9.05 Daytime on Two Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (6719011)

2.00 Juniper Jungle (r) (s) (86287547)

2.10 The Andrew Neil Show (s) (5255160)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather; **Westminster with Nick Ross** (7985924) **3.55 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5941547)

4.00 Today's the Day. History quiz (s) (856)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (740)

5.00 Esther. Esther Rantzen chairs a studio discussion on the pros and cons of mass immunisation (s) (7479)

5.30 The Village. A fly-on-the-wall account of life in Bentley, Hampshire (932)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air. Teen comedy series starring Will Smith (s) (634769)

6.25 Heartbreak High. Drama series about an Australian inner-city high school. (Ceefax) (s) (592160)

7.10 The Ren and Stimpy Show. Cartoon series featuring a testy chihuahua and feline friend. (Ceefax) (s) (287295)

7.30 **Local Heroes: Northern Ireland**. (Ceefax) (s) (769)

8.00 Pound for Pound. The financial magazine looks at some schemes designed by travel companies to tempt you to buy their unsold holidays. (6363)

8.30 Food and Drink. Michael Barry prepares a pasta margherita, Jilly Goolden tastes instant soups and Josceline Dimbleby visits the monks and friars and kitchens of Belmont Abbey. (Ceefax) (s) (5498)

9.00 Whatever Happened to the Likely Lads? Classic comedy with Rodney Bewes and James Bolam (r). (Ceefax) (3498)

Darcey Bussell in Washington (9.30pm)

9.30 **The House: Foot Fault**. (Ceefax) (s) (159127)

10.20 **Several Careful Owners**. The history of a Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow from a London showroom to the hard standing of an HGV driver's council house. (Ceefax) (s) (385837)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (706479)

11.15 The Larry Sanders Show. American comedy series. (Ceefax) (s) (644740)

11.40 Seinfeld. The first of a two-part comedy story featuring Jerry's father. (Ceefax) (s) (263059). Followed by **Weather**

12.05am The Midnight Hour with Lesley Riddoch. Political chat show (s) (5759677)

12.30-6.00 The Learning Zone

CHOICE

Local Heroes
BBC2, 7.30pm

Northern Ireland, no less than the rest of the United Kingdom, has its quota of inventors and you can trust Adam Hart-Davis to smoke them out. As usual with this diverting series, it is not the stories themselves but the way Hart-Davis tells them. Every aspiring *Mastermind* contestant knows that John Boyd Dunlop invented the pneumatic tyre. But the why and the how is not such general knowledge. Hart-Davis tells us exactly why and demonstrates how. He also salutes the designer of the Ulster overcoat and shows how Thomas Romney Robinson proved that Armagh was nearly 50 cms further west of Dublin than anyone had thought. With Harry Ferguson, who invented nothing, Hart-Davis is cheating a bit. He presumably felt that the tale of Ferguson and his tractor was too good to leave out.

The Decision: A Mixed Blessing
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Julie Cope, who is expecting a baby, has a blood test. It reveals a one in 130 chance that the child will have Down's syndrome. Although the odds against may seem overwhelming, in medical terms this is a more than average risk. Cope's next option is amniocentesis, a test that will definitely tell her the fate of her baby. But it could cause her to miscarry. In relating the stories of the Copes, and other couples facing the same dilemma, the film reveals the paradox that giving patients greater information and choice can actually increase their anxiety. And the limits of medical knowledge are cruelly underlined by the case of a woman who gave birth to a Down's syndrome baby after the blood test showed that she was virtually in the clear. Understandably, her anxieties are even greater when she becomes pregnant for a second time.

The House: Foot Fault
BBC2, 9.30pm

After two explosive episodes, the series on Covent Garden starts to calm down. It even manages to present the place in a favourable light. The Royal Ballet travels to Washington for a high profile premiere in front of President Clinton and Princess Margaret. Despite first-night apprehensions, nothing seriously goes wrong. Baroness Blackstone, who in last week's programme accused Jeremy Isaacs and his management team of appalling incompetence, is all hugs and kisses. But this harmony is not destined to last. Isaacs brings in Mike Morris, a new personnel director, to sort out labour practices which have seemingly been untouched by a decade of Mrs Thatcher. Isaacs says the stage crews have so much time off they can run fish and chip shops on the side. The workers are not amused.

Several Careful Owners
BBC2, 10.20pm

The feel-good factor is certainly absent when you can buy a secondhand Rolls-Royce for less than £9,000, even if it is 20 years old. Not that Ray Burdett is complaining. He has wanted a Roller all his life and after saving up for 30 years the blue Silver Shadow stands gleaming in his drive. That Burdett is a lorry driver who lives on a council estate adds spice to an entertaining little film, based on the simple but effective formula of telling the story of a car through its owners. The Shadow remained longest in the hands of a Dr Vittadini, whose horse Grundy won the Derby in the mid-1970s. A less enchanted owner was another lorry driver. He bought the car with his redundancy money, discovered it would not fit into his garage and sold it when he was charged £500 for a new water pump.

Peter Waymark

HTV

6.00am GMTV (2377924)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (4820818)

9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (6796160)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (1577856)

10.35 This Morning(57718566)

12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (6852905)

12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (6166127)

12.55 Shortland Street (s) (6141818) **1.20 High Road** (Teletext) **2.20 Chain Letters** (Teletext) (s) (18569011) **2.50 Vanessa** (Teletext) (s) (4003837) **3.20 News** (Teletext) (2748011)

3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (2747382)

3.30 The Magic House (s) (2578769) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (7152092) **3.50 Budgie the Little Helicopter** (s) (2572585) **4.05 Tiny Toon Adventures** (s) (5947721) **4.30 Cone Zone** (r) (Teletext) (s) (566) **5.00 Animaniacs** (r) (Teletext) (4942127)

5.10 Animal Country (6826092)

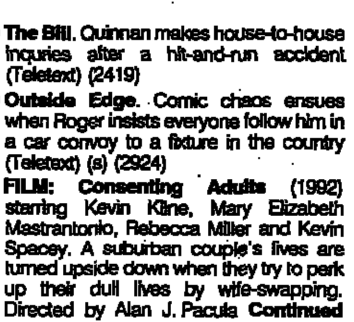
5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (425547)

6.00 Home and Away. Dodge escapes yet again, Damian decides to enter the priesthood and the feud escalates (r) (Teletext) (s) (289)

6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (951)

7.00 Emmerdale. Frank sets a trap for Kim, Jan finds out what Dave's been up to and Scott's dangerous hobby backfires (Teletext) (s) (4769)

7.30 West Eye View. Have passengers benefited from deregulating the buses? (295)



Andrew Paul on the beat (8.00pm)

8.00 The Bill. Quinnan makes house-to-house inquiries after a hit-and-run accident (Teletext) (2419)

8.30 Outside Edge. Comic chaos ensues when Roger insists everyone follow him in a car convoy to a fixture in the country (Teletext) (s) (2924)

9.00 FILM: Consenting Adults (1992) starring Kevin Kline, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio, Rebecca Miller and Kevin Spacey. A suburban couple's lives are turned upside down when they try to perk up their dull lives by wife-swapping. Directed by Alan J. Pacula **Continued after the news.** (Teletext) (s) (8295)

10.00 News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (55189)

10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (907721)

10.40 Consenting Adults (continues and concludes) (Teletext) (s) (916769)

11.30 Prisoner Cell Block H (45547)

12.30 FILM: B.L. Stryker — Winner Takes All (1990) starring Burt Reynolds. Stryker becomes the target of a ruthless crime lord. Directed by Alan J. Levi (s) (676054)

2.15am Late & Loud (6580238) **3.10 The Chart Show** (3143122) **4.05 Football Extra** (r) (7247509) **4.45 Music Box Profile** (97883870)**5.00 On The Road To The Islands** (40493)

5.30 Morning News (68702)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except:

5.10pm-5.40 On the Road with Elinor (6626092)

6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (889108)

7.30-8.00 Knowing My Place (295)

As HTV West except:

12.25-12.30 My Story (6860924)

12.55 Chain Letters (6141818)

1.25 Emmerdale (32598363)

1.55-2.25 Home and Away (76623363)

2.25 Vanessa (18568382)

2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (1237059)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6626092)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live presented by David Foster and Alison Johns (83450)

7.30-8.00 The Middle Ages (295)

As HTV West except:

12.55 Home and Away (6141818)

1.25 Chain Letters (32593363)

1.55 A Country Practice (64856363)

2.20 Vanessa (18569011)

2.50-3.20 Look and Cook (4003837)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6626092)

6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (889108)

7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country (295)

11.35 Film: Puppet on a Chain (418108)

1.25am Late & Loud (2939986)

2.25 Hotel Babylon (7071509)

3.00 Funny Business (48537509)

3.25 Football Extra (4647948)

4.05 Jobfinder (4796764)

5.20 Asian Eye (3372764)

As HTV West except:

12.55pm-1.25 Chain Letters (6141818)

1.25 Home and Away (32593363)

2.20 Vanessa (18569011)

2.50-3.20 The Afternoon Show (4003837)

5.10 Home and Away (6626092)

5.37-5.40 Three Minutes - Making It Happen (368856)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (289)

6.30-7.00 Surprise Chefs presented by Kevin Woodford (951)

7.30-8.00 24 Hours (295)

5.00am Freescreen (40493)

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (89721) **9.00 Fifteen to One** (65566) **9.30 Iawi!** (16635) **9.30 Schools** (1380276) **9.50 Iawi!** (1393740) **10.10 Maths Everywhere** (7983856) **10.25 Iechyd A** (7962363) **10.45 Quest** (1592189) **11.00 Science in Focus** (4629081) **11.20 Stage One** (8281837) **11.35 Film and Video Showcase** (4428498) **11.45 First Edition** (5967363) **12.00 House to House** (78030) **12.30 Earthworm Jim** (16671) **1.00 Slot Meithrin: ABC** (88092) **1.30 Time Team: Teignmouth** (72547) **2.30 Screaming Reels** (672) **3.00 Love in the Afternoon** (1117) **4.00 Backdate** (924) **4.30 Saved by the Bell: The New Class** (108) **5.00 5 Pump: Uned 5** (2547) **5.30 Countdown** (160) **6.00 Newyddion** (985027) **6.15 Heno** (521672) **7.00 Pobol Y Cwm** (909905) **7.25 Dudley** (167818) **8.00 Pacio** (1059) **8.30 Newyddion** (7586) **9.00 O Flaen Dy Lygaid** (6837) **10.00 Brookside** (86059) **10.30 Cutting Edge: Whistleblowers** (31943) **11.30 Rising Damp** (77498) **12.00am The Decision: A Mixed Blessing** (65615)

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Think Tank (r) (Teletext) (s) (5457189)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (85905)

9.00 Fifteen to One (r) (Teletext) (s) (65566)

9.30 Schools Eureka! (3961276) **9.45** Stop Look Listen (399905) **10.00** Forways Farm (86467) **10.10** Maths Everywhere (7983856) **10.25** How We Used to Live (7962763) **10.45** Guest (1592187) **11.00** Science in Focus 4629081) **11.20** Stage One (8281837) **11.35** Film and Video Showcase (4428498) **11.45** First Edition (5967363) (s)

12.00 House to House(78030) **12.30pm Sesame Street** (71818) **1.30 Ovide** (76646214)

1.55 The Pharmacist (b/w) Classic W. C. Fields short (64863653)

2.15 FILM: Wabash Avenue (1950). Showgirl Betty Grable is lusted after by rival conmen Victor Mature and Phil Harris. Directed by Henry Koster (Teletext) (658092)

4.00 Backdate (Teletext) (s) (924) **4.30 Countdown** (Teletext) (s) (108) **5.00 The Montel Williams Show** (Teletext) (s) (9046924) **5.50 Terrytoons** (369943)

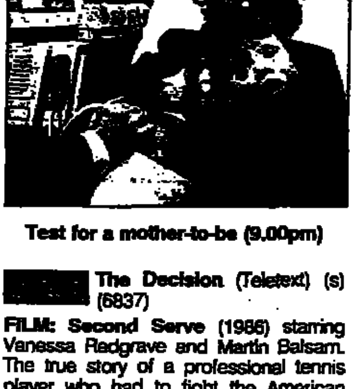
6.00 The Avengers. Steed and Mrs Peel have to try to stop an assassin bent on placing a bomb on the Prime Minister's private train (r) (Teletext) (81092)

7.00 Channel 4 News and weather (Teletext)

7.55 The Slot (Teletext) (257214)

8.00 Ride On. Alain de Cadenet rides a bicycle in London's rush-hour traffic. Muriel Gray investigates whether electric-powered cars in France are going to solve the pollution problem (Teletext) (s) (1059)

8.30 Brookside. Jimmy is adversely affected by cough medicine (Teletext) (s) (7586)



Test for a mother-to-be (9.00pm)

9.00 **The Decision** (Teletext) (s) (6837)

10.00 FILM: Second Serve (1986) starring Vanessa Redgrave and Martin Balsam. The true story of a professional tennis player who had to fight the American tennis authorities for the right to compete as a woman after undergoing a sex change. Directed by Anthony Page (Teletext) (650837)

11.45 Nurses Hank takes his baby to the hospital's family day without telling Gina (Teletext) (s) (862818)

12.15am Football Italia — Mezzanotte (894580)

1.15 Next Stop Hollywood (r) (66948)

1.45 FILM: Sagebrush Trail (1934, b/w) Western starring John Wayne. A man imprisoned for a murder he did not commit is determined to clear his name. Directed by Armand Schaefer (899035)

2.45 The Dispossessed. The first of a four-part series concentrates on Malawi (813615). Ends at **3.45**

SATELLITE

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY ONE

7.00am Boiled Egg (92081) **8.30** Press Your Luck (94092) **9.00** Court TV (18672) **9.30** Oprah Winfrey (80189) **10.30** Concentration (14856) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (37382) **12.00** Jeopardy! (84568) **12.30pm** Murphy Brown (33479) **1.00** The Waltons (21634) **2.00** Geraldo **3.00** Court TV (9568) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey (2603479) **4.15** Undun (4389634) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (4160) **6.00** The Simpsons (8479) **6.30** Jeopardy! (2059) **7.00** LAPD (2189) **7.30** M*A*S*H (1943) **8.00** Nowhere Man (68189) **9.00** Chicago Hope (71653) **10.00** The Next Generation (74740) **11.00** Law and Order (25547) **12.00** David Letterman (6771783) **12.45am** The Untouchables (6065986) **1.30** Sibs (74561) **2.00** Hit Mix (6270290)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (9136059) **9.30** Fashion TV (11059) **10.30** ABC Nightline (12498) **1.30pm** CBS News (55905) **2.30** Parliament Live (8831721) **3.15** Parliament Live (4439978) **6.30** Tonight (79301) **8.30** Target (1214) **11.30** CBS News (26547) **12.30am** ABC World News (10851) **1.30** Tonight Replay (16306) **2.30** Target (61431) **3.30** Parliament Replay (40948) **4.30** CBS News (55783) **5.30** ABC News (17342)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am 42nd Street (1933) (96382) **8.00 Girl Crazy** (1943) (16301) **10.00 Hostage for a Day** (1993) (37295) **12.00 Nine Hours to Rama** (1962) (14757437) **2.05pm My Father, the Hero** (1994) (838276) **4.00 Two for the Road** (1967) (9092) **6.00 Hostage for a Day** (1993) (85856) **8.00 Intersection** (1994) (80301) **10.00 Where Sleeping Dogs Lie** (1991) (365949) **11.35 When a Stranger Calls Back** (1993) (846092) **1.10am The King's Whore** (1990) (880752) **2.45 Indian Summer** (1993) (541551) **4.20 My Father, the Hero** (1994) (322344)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Meet the People (1944) (8924) **6.00 Portrait of a Mobster** (1961) (67498) **.00 Rocky** (1976) (62943) **10.00 Barbarella** (1967) (487943) **11.45 A History of the World Part 1** (1981) (130380) **1.25-3.00am Rasputin — the Mad Monk** (1966) (546035)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Yogi Bear and the Magic Flight of the Spruce Goose (94924) **8.00 Moby Dick** (36295) **9.00 The Flying Sorceror** (1974) (23276) **10.00 The Black Orchid** (1958) (35837) **12.00 The Caddy** (1953) (71586) **2.00pm Boeing Boeing** (1965) (63634) **4.00 Moby Dick** (30818) **5.00 The Flying Sorceror** (1974) (7498) **6.00 Where Are My Children?** (1994) (48585) **7.30 Special Feature** (4653) **8.00 Shadow of a Doubt** (1995) (88943) **10.00 Judgment Night** (1993) (287905) **11.50 Slaughter of the Innocents** (1993) (589295) **1.35am Puppetmaster 2** (1990) (8436851) **3.05 Beyond Betrayal** (1993) (27758180)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold from 10pm to 4am.

6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree (31592108) **6.30** Fraggle Rock (88329130) **7.00** Winnie the Pooh (18975617) **7.30** Ducktales (33725914) **8.00** Chip 'n Dales (49341363) **8.30** Wonderland (49340634) **9.00** Disney (31501856) **10.00** Under the Umbrella Tree (94624522) **10.30** Fraggle Rock (49360498) **11.00** Muppet Babies (69629382) **11.30** Pooh Corner (69620011) **12.00** Quack Attack (49344450) **12.30pm** Dumbo's Circus (64943522) **1.00** Adventures in Wonderland (19325158) **1.30** Boy Meets World (65393063) **2.00** Thunder Alley (20739721) **2.30** Stick with Me Kid (18289030) **3.30** Winnie the Pooh (58634130) **4.00** Quack Attack (69989027) **4.30** Ducktales (77084491) **5.00** Chip 'n Dale (20753301) **5.30** Danger Bay (59084671) **6.00** Tarzan (52234194) **6.30** Dinosaurs (84779769) **8.00-10.00** FILM: 16 Days of Glory (20828837)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Skating (31740) **9.00** Speedworld (49653) **11.00** Snooker (75586) **12.00** Football (15108) **1.00pm** Football (79479) **2.30** Football (55301) **4.00** Swimming (2108) **6.00** Formula 1 (99932) **7.00** Aerobics (52473) **8.00** Boxing (26127) **10.00** Snooker (72566) **11.30-12.30am** Wrestling (65189)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Sky Sports Centre (85943) **7.30** Racing News (64450) **8.00** American Sports Cavalcade (74011) **9.00** Aerobics Oz Style (93498) **9.30** Phoenix Open (185059) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (73634) **12.30pm** FA Cup Fourth Round (13586) **2.30** Tartan Extra (3586) **3.00** American Sports Cavalcade (71189) **4.00** Sports Unlimited (83924) **5.00** World Wrestling Federation Mania (7276) **6.00** Sports Centre (4295) **6.30** British Rally Championships — Formula 2 (5547) **7.00** Scottish FA Cup Round Three — Live (321924) **10.00** Sports Centre (74363) **10.30** Ice Warriors (54789) **12.00** Scottish Cup Football (40431) **2.00am** Skiff Sailing (14290) **2.30-3.00** Sky Sports Centre (33325)

SKY SPORTS GOLD

10.00pm World Cup Hall of Fame (6828951) **10.30** Golden Gloves with Barry McGuigan (2808837) **11.30** The Golden Age of Motor Racing (8804837) **12.30-1.00am** Gillette World Sport Memories (3556615)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

4.00am Living Word **5.00** Kenneth Copeland **5.30** Kidz TV **5.45** Chronicles of Revival **6.15** Colin Dye **6.45-7.00** Christian Music Television

SKY SOAP

7.00am Guiding Light (7938924) **7.55** As the World Turns (9881943) **8.50** Peyton Place (8215289) **9.20** Days of Our Lives (7339382) **10.10-11.00** Another World (3226553)

SKY TRAVEL

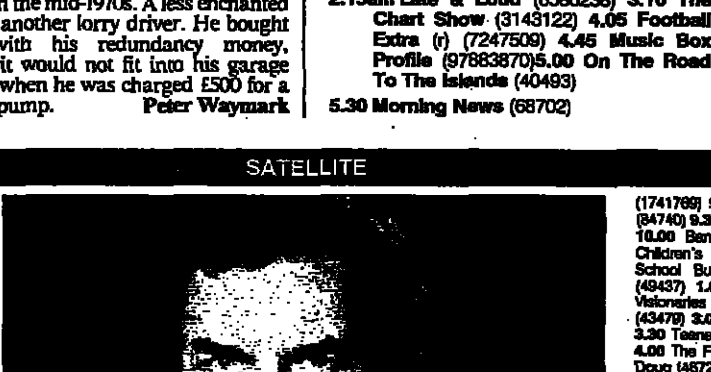
11.00am Globetrotter (4156924) **11.30** Trailside (4157653) **12.00** On Top of the World -barbados (1205522) **12.30pm** Frugal Gourmet Cooks Italian (5507092) **1.00** Around the World in 30 Minutes (7139301) **1.30** Sky Travel Guide (5506363) **2.00** Ski Special (2409061) **3.00** Getaway (8881924) **3.30-4.00** Kids Down Under (2782301)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm The Most Decorated (4147276) **5.00** Conquest of Everest 1953 (8652276) **6.00-7.00** Biography Ponce De Leon (5515011)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

7.00pm Inside Space (8853905) **7.30** Sci-Fi Buzz (2768721) **8.00** Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan (4544653) **10.00** Close (4360360) **1.00am** Sci-Fi Buzz (2865580) **2.00-4.00** Star Trek II the Wrath of Khan (5379870)



Martin Landau in Gerry Anderson's *Space 1999* (Bravo, 8.00pm)

TLC

9.00am The Joy of Painting (6141672) **9.30** Grow with Joe (7568924) **10.00** Two's Country (7998295) **10.30** Our House (6147856) **11.00** The Painted House (5521837) **11.30** Running Repairs (5522566) **12.00** Julia Child (6138108) **12.30pm** The Frugal Gourmet (7592740) **1.00** Yan Can Cook (8894092) **1.30** On the Edge (7581011) **2.00** Dogs with Dunbar (2025479) **2.30** Secret Gardens (1395943) **3.00** Two's Country (2037214) **3.30-4.00** This Old House (1387160)

UK GOLD

7.00am Angels (8674479) **7.30** Neighbours (8686214) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (6137479) **8.30** EastEnders (6129450) **9.00** The Bill (6143030) **9.30** The Sullivans (7590382) **10.00** Howards' Way (8682498) **11.00** Juliet Bravo (8662634) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (8130566) **12.30pm** Neighbours (7501498) **1.00** EastEnders (8868450) **1.30** The Bill (7500769) **2.00** The Sullivans (61752295) **2.25** Are You Being Served? (2971498) **3.00** Angels (2039672) **3.30** Eldorado (2176818) **4.00** Casualty (3515018) **5.00** Generation Game (7705056) **6.15** Kenny's Comic Cuts (8409392) **6.25** EastEnders (2488996) **7.00** Eldorado (2021653) **7.30** Happy Ever After (1365565) **8.00** Get Some In (9852818) **8.25** Butterflies (9068127) **9.00** The Sweeney (4393189) **10.00** The Bill (9331108) **10.25** Classic Sport (6733011) **11.35** Carrott Confidential (1831237) **12.15am** FILM: They're a Weird Mob (2113324) **2.05-3.00** Shopping (2265702)

TCC

6.00am Swan's Crossing (86932) **6.30** Pugwall (29324) **7.00** Ready or Not (51011) **7.30** California Dreams (47818) **8.00** Sweet Valley High (30943) **8.30** Tiny TCC (49350189) **2.30** Happy Ever After (7924) **3.00** Sonic the Hedgehog (8322) **3.30** The New Pink Panther Show (5769) **4.00** California Dreams (8276) **4.30** Sweet Valley High (7160)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Henry's Cat (5078818) **6.15** Blue, Child of the Earth (20478) **6.45** Toucan Tecs (9712011) **7.00** Babar (7571092) **7.00a** Grimmy (6543366) **7.45** Rugrats and Doug (1741769) **9.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (84740) **9.30** Pee-Wee's Playhouse (38059) **10.00** Banana Sandwich (68276) **11.00** Children's BBC (71740) **12.00** Magic School Bus (71278) **12.30pm** Grimmy (49437) **1.00** Global Guts (82856) **1.30** Visionaries (99978) **2.00** Children's BBC (43479) **3.00** The Littlest Pet Shop (4566) **3.30** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (6653) **4.00** The Ferals (5160) **4.30** Rugrats and Doug (4672) **5.00** Sister Sister (9011) **5.30** Mission Top Secret (5924) **6.00** Ren and Stimpy (2837) **6.30** The Adventures of Pete and Pete (3189) **7.00-8.00** The Odyssey (6547) **7.30** Dracula (5301)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Bush Tucker Man (1386295) **4.30** Ambulance! (1382479) **5.00** Treasure Hunters (2049059) **5.30** Terra X (1306059) **6.00** Invention (1396572) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (5225504) **7.30** Mysterious Universe (1383108) **8.00** Azimuth (4304295) **9.00** Secret Weapons (5534301) **9.30** Blood and Honour (7589276) **10.00** Classic Wheels (4394818) **11.00-12.00** Great White (9881789)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Invasion of the Animal People (6388943) **1.30pm** Death Valley Days (7595837) **2.00** Danger Man (7986450) **3.00** The Buccaneers (2024740) **3.30** The Adventures of William Tell (1394214) **4.00** FILM: For Better, for Worse (8378566) **5.30** Honey West (1393585) **6.00** Dead at 21 (1390498) **6.30** Automan (6120950) **7.30** The Green Hornet (1370634) **8.00** Space 1999 (4391721) **9.00** Alien Nation (4311585) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Creepshow (5529479)

PARAMOUNT

8.00pm Entertainment Tonight (5295) **8.30** The Odd Couple (7030) **9.00** Mr President (70450) **9.30** Laverne and Shirley (12011) **10.00** Entertainment Tonight (72505) **10.30** Bosom Buddies (61653) **11.00** Pigsty (82295) **11.30** Sledgehammer (31634) **12.00** I Love Lucy (12561) **12.30am** The Odd Couple (85293) **1.00** Mr President (66211) **1.30** Laverne and Shirley (25218) **2.00** Entertainment Tonight (12832) **2.30** Bosom Buddies (31987) **3.00** Pigsty (99677) **3.30-4.00** Sledgehammer (22219)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (5034295) **7.00** Kilroy (9156127) **8.00** Esther (9777092) **8.30** Mr Smith's Indoor Garden (9776363) **9.00** Tastes of Wales (3615108) **9.35** Kate and Allie (2605721) **10.05** The Jerry Springer Show (8849030) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (6268479) **11.55** Brookside (6890566) **12.30pm** Dangerous Women (1523998) **1.30** Crosswits (8840276) **2.00** Agony Hour (2434547) **3.00** Live at Three (1461108) **4.00** Infatuation UK (1906479) **4.30** Crosswits (3591740) **5.05** Lingo (82961160) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (1919943) **6.00** Bewitched (1916856) **6.30** Brookside (2515189) **7.05** Madhur Jaffrey's Indian Cookery (2351030) **7.40** The Joker's Wild (1419672) **8.05** The Young and the Restless (5639943) **9.00** FILM: The Queen of Mean (74967011) **10.50** Entertainment Now! (7990276) **11.00-12.00** The Erogenous Zone (6145189)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Ocean Odyssey (2127) **5.30** The Adventures of Tintin (861189) **5.55** Batman (457498) **6.30** Catchphrase (9905) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (2363) **7.30** My Two Dads (5189) **8.00** FILM: Rehearsal for Murder (42189) **10.00** Treasure Hunt (54924) **11.00** Neon Rider (77059) **12.00** Adventures of Tintin (65577) **12.30am** Bordertown (58899) **1.00** Batman (47967) **1.30** Rhoda (61035) **2.00** Big Brother Jake (65948) **2.30** Neon Rider (27035) **3.30** Rhoda (68035) **4.00** Big Brother Jake (89526) **4.30-5.00** Ocean Odyssey (28832)

MTV

6.30am The Grind (21382) **7.00** 3 from 1 (9469160) **7.15** Awake on the Wildside (3292905) **8.00** Music Videos (141896) **10.30** The Pulse (28108) **11.00** The Soul of MTV (58924) **12.00** Greatest Hits (59566) **1.00pm** Music Non-Stop (50982030) **2.45** 3 from 1 (8217498) **3.00** Cinematic (1900856) **3.15** Hanging Out (1525943) **4.00** MTV News at Night (8083059) **4.15** Hanging Out (8048382) **4.30** Dial MTV (6818) **5.00** The Worst of Most Wanted (4585) **5.30** Boom! In the Afternoon (7158) **6.00** Hanging Out (2081) **6.30** MTV Sports (1363) **7.00** Greatest Hits (57011) **8.00** The Worst of Most Wanted (9899) **8.30** Guide to Alternative Music (86301) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (50295) **10.00** MTV News at Night (502083) **10.15** Cinematic (552566) **10.30** Real World London (29837) **11.00** The End? (37769) **11.30** Videos (3524566)

VH-1

7.00a, Power Breakfast (7138872) **9.00** Cafe VH-1 (8009618) **12.00** Heart and Soul (5528589) **1.00pm** The Vinyl Years (5504905) **2.00** Ten of the Best (6104699) **3.00** Into the Music (2620924) **6.00** VH-1-2-3 (5524769) **7.00** VH-1 for You (4533547) **8.00** Tuesday Review (4542295) **9.00** Ten of the Best (4562059) **10.00** The Vinyl Years (4532818) **11.00** Tommy Vance Is the Nightfly (8814214) **1.00am** Ten of the Best (2874238) **2.00** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE

Country music from **6am** to **7pm** on **satellite, 24 hours on cable** including **8.00pm** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

ZEE TV

7.00am Asian Morning (86463634) **8.30** Filmi Chakkar (65654522) **9.00** Gujarati FILM (90117301) **12.00** Dekh Bhai Dekh (57559159) **12.30pm** Andaz (53658769) **1.00** Hindi FILM: Raaj Mahal (82975011) **4.00** Doosra Kewal (11578392) **4.30** Nukkad (11574566) **5.00** Zee Zone (37709059) **5.30** Ennodu Oru Naal (11585818) **6.00** India Business Report (11595059) **6.30** Zee and U (11579011) **7.00** Tehraiyan (57530127) **8.00** News (37798943) **8.30** Hindi FILM (53368534) **11.30-12.00** Scandal (78391547)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

7.00pm The Wreck of the Mary Deare (1959) (34175465) **9.00 Three Little Words** (1950) (20618450) **11.00 Interrupted Melody** (1955) (47284479) **1.05am Your Cheatin' Heart** (1964) (91922306) **2.50-5.00 The Singing Nun** (1966) (11515054)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel.

PERFORMANCE

7.00pm Newport Jazz Festival **9.00** The Three Tenors **11.00-1.00am** I Am a Camera

BBC WORLD

News on the hour.

8.15am Panorama **9.30** Tomorrow's World **12.15pm** Money Programme **1.15** Business **1.30** BBC Asia Pacific **2.25** Andrew Neil **3.15** Panorama **4.30** Food and Drink **5.15** Business **5.30** Film '95 **8.05** Panorama **9.30** The Clothes Show **11.25** Business **12.10am** Newsnight **4.05** Timewatch

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RUGBY UNION 40
PROBLEMS PILING
UP FOR NEW
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SPORT

RACING 41
DETTORI UNDER
STARTER'S ORDERS
AT LINGFIELD

TUESDAY JANUARY 30 1996

BBC and ITV split European championship

By John Goodbody

ENGLAND versus Scotland, the most eagerly awaited match of the European football championship and the oldest international fixture in the world, will be shown exclusively by BBC on June 15.

As the public debate about Sky's increasing domination of leading events continues, BBC and ITV will be showing live all 31 matches in the quadrennial tournament, the biggest sporting occasion to take place in Great Britain since the 1966 World Cup.

The European Broadcasting Union has paid a record £44 million for the television rights. The two British terrestrial companies are expected to spend a total of £10 million between them for their share of the rights and the costs as joint-host broadcasters. Sky will have only news access to the competition.

After BBC and ITV had negotiated to split the matches, the commercial channel secured both England and Scotland's final group games, which will decide whether they reach the quarter-finals. On June 18, England play Holland and Scotland meet Switzerland.

ITV will also show both home countries' opening games, England versus Switzerland on June 8 and Scotland against Holland two days later.

For the quarter-finals, BBC will have the first and third choice of the four games and ITV will get the second and fourth. The agreement by the two channels not to duplicate coverage will last at least until the semi-finals.

If either of the home countries reaches the last four, then both channels will want to show the games live. However, if both England and Scotland have already been knocked out, then the allocation of the two semi-finals will be settled on the toss of a coin. Both BBC and ITV will show the final live on June 30.

Should England be playing in the final, then the record audience for a sports broadcast in Britain could be broken. This is 25.21 million for the World Cup semi-final in 1990, when West Germany beat England on penalties, with 16.69 million people watching on BBC and 8.52 million on ITV.

Brian Barwick, the head of production for BBC TV sport, said yesterday that he was confident that the England-Scotland game would attract an audience of nearly 17 million. "With the first choice of the semi-finals, we fully expect to be following the home nations as the competition mounts into its exciting knockout phase," he said. He pointed out that BBC viewers would also get the first look in the tournament at Germany, one of the favourites, and Denmark, the surprise winners in 1992.

Jeff Farmer, ITV's head of football, said: "We have negotiated a sensible arrangement with the BBC and I am delighted with ITV's package. We will kick off with the razzmatazz of the opening ceremony and England's vital first game, followed by Scotland's opener against Holland, the group favourites. We have then got exclusive live coverage of the two games which will probably decide if England and Scotland stay in the competition."

The BBC line-up will include Desmond Lynam, Gary Lineker, Trevor Brooking, Jimmy Hill and David Pleat, plus a commentary and reporting team headed by John Motson and Barry Davies. ITV has still to announce its team.

With 16 countries participating for the first time in the 36-year history of the event, more than 5,000 media personnel will cover Euro '96. The event will be televised by 130 countries across the world.

Financially, the competition is already more profitable than the previous record for any British sports event — the 1994 and 1995 Wimbledon championships, both of which made £27.9 million.

The European television rights were sold for £44 million while the primary sponsorship and television rights for the rest of the world went for £24.4 million. Ticket sales already exceed 500,000 in Britain alone, bringing in £14 million. The sale of seats at Wembley for England's group games is now "approaching" the allocation for the host country.

The FA, which is running the tournament for Uefa, will spend £15 million on staging the competition and, provided the stadiums are, on average, 80 per cent full, it too will begin to make a profit.

African Cup review, page 40

FA prepares to discuss England offer to Robson

By David Maddock and Louise Taylor

THE name of Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, will carry a familiar ring around the corridors of Lancaster Gate by the end of what promises to be a momentous week in his career.

Yesterday, Robson was found guilty of the first disrepute charge that he has faced in a 22-year professional career. Today, his name will be taken in a different vein — his will be prominent among those discussed by the men invested with the task of appointing a successor to Terry Venables, the England coach.

After a meeting of the 15-man Football Association international committee, a sub-committee comprising five of the FA's great and good will hear a representation by Jimmy Armfield, their adviser, and sift through the serious candidates for the position that will become vacant after the European championship finals in June. By the end of the afternoon, the sub-committee, led by Sir Bert Millichip, the chairman of the FA, will have arrived upon the name it believes is the most suited to continuing the work started by Venables. Robson is a strong favourite.

He is unlikely, however, to be unveiled as the next England coach by this evening. The sub-committee will decide upon its man — whoever he may be — and then attempt to persuade him to accept its offer. With so many of the leading candidates insisting that they are not interested, it promises to be a laborious process.

Whatever the outcome, Robson will no doubt prefer the events of this afternoon at Lancaster Gate to those of yesterday. He was not present to hear that he had been found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute and fined £750 after an incident after Middlesbrough's fixture at Blackburn on December 16.

Branco: dual purpose

A spokesman for the FA revealed that the offence came when Robson hurled unsavoury comments at Paul Danson, the match referee, in the tunnel after the match. Neil Cox and Nigel Pearson, Middlesbrough players, were also found guilty of making abusive remarks to the official and were fined £500 apiece.

Robson was incensed after the referee had dismissed Derek Whyte, the Middlesbrough centre half, for his second bookable offence in the closing stages of the match.

Manchester United are to appeal against a £20,000 fine by the FA for an illegal approach to David Brown, the Oldham Athletic associated schoolboy forward. Two weeks ago, United were found guilty of the same offence involving Matthew Wicks, of Arsenal, but escaped punishment when the son of the former Chelsea defender, Steve, returned to Highbury. In the latest case, United must pay the hearing costs and agree compensation with Oldham for Brown, 17, whose signature could eventually cost up to £100,000.

Robson, in his Middlesbrough role, yesterday secured the services of Branco, the Brazil defender. Robson sees his new signing serving a dual purpose, occupying the left back position that has proved a weak link in his side all season and acting as a soulmate for Juninho, who is taking time settling on Teesside.

Branco, a World Cup winner with Brazil two years ago, has played in three World Cups, losing his international place only to Roberto Carlos, of Internazionale, in the past two seasons. *Ironically*, Robson spent last weekend in Milan attempting to sign Carlos, but had a £6.3 million offer rejected by the Italian club.

Branco, 31, will arrive on a free transfer — although his wages are likely to be exorbitant — having bought his own contract after recently leaving Internacional, of Porto Alegre, in Brazil. A holder of 70 international caps, Branco — full name Claudio Ibrahim Vaz — has also played for Genoa and Brescia in Italy, FC Porto in Portugal and Fluminense of Brazil. He agreed to join Robson after declining overtures from the Major Soccer League in the United States.

Bedford sits in front of the Cutty Sark at Greenwich, past which the London Marathon competitors will run during the race in April

Marathon man urges caution

By David Powell, *athletics correspondent*

DAVID BEDFORD, the elite race director of the Flora London Marathon, yesterday urged Great Britain's Olympic marathon selectors to exercise caution this weekend *when they meet to discuss the* team for Atlanta. Bedford believes that only Peter Whitehead, fourth at the world championships last year, should be picked now and that the selectors should wait until after the spring marathons — notably in London and Boston — before deciding who should fill the five other places.

Bedford is also confident that a sponsored national endurance squad will be in operation by May, helped by London Marathon money. Britain's distance runners, lacking any substantial funding, struggle against other European countries, that are paying their athletes and providing training support.

It is more by individual dedication than any structured back-up from the British Athletic Federation (BAF) that Britain has an Olympic selection dilemma based on *nine athletes qualified and* only six places available — three each for men and women — but without a man under 2hr 10min or a woman under 2hr 30min. "A large number of British runners are going to do spring marathons and it would be nonsense to select prior to those marathons," Bedford said.

"The Flora London Marathon is the British championships and, if the selectors intend that to have any status, it would make sense to wait. The one thing they would not want is for people to have good runs in spring marathons and then have to leave them out of the Olympics."

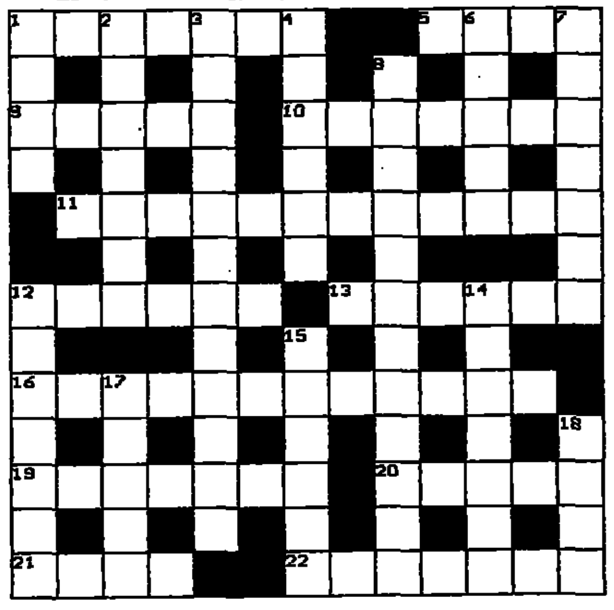
The selectors have given no indication how many athletes they may pick when they gather this weekend.

Bedford said that £100,000 would be needed annually for an endurance squad "to have some impact". He added: "The London Marathon is working with BAF to come up with funding." The marathon's ability to contribute has been helped by its new sponsor. Flora's marathon budget is £6 million in its first year of a three-year agreement, more than provided by any previous sponsor.

Although names for the race on April 21 will not be announced until next month, Bedford said that the elite field this year would be "of a higher international quality" than ever before.

For the first time, the elite runners will have a transponder fitted to a shoelace, enabling faster and more detailed timing information to be relayed during the race.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 691

ACROSS

1 Crucial (7)
5 Carl —, broke with Freud (4)
9 Froth of surf (5)
10 Greek fertility goddess (7)
11 *Senior officer (of each service* (5,2,5)
12 Rolled-up parchment (6)
13 Unfulfilled; would-be (Fr.) (6)
16 Exaggerated ill-health (12)
19 Mean; information (3-4)
20 Heave; sounds like *poor chap* (5)
21 Stratagem (4)
22 Nationality of Dalai Lama (7)

DOWN

1 Bunch of flowers (4)
2 Coupon (7)
3 Genuine article (3,4,5)
4 Salop market town (6)
6 *Extreme; an extremist (5)*
7 Tall savanna ruminant (7)
8 (Robbery) from shop window (5-3-4)
12 Pupil; learned person (7)
14 Work for five players (7)
15 Fourteen-line poem (6)
17 Welsh county: John Cowper — (5)
18 Avoid; mil. command (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 690
ACROSS: 1 Hard as nails 8 Tough 9 Capture 10 Hoax *11 Gershwin* 13 Debate 14 Compel 17 Arpeggio 19 Crab 22 Thin air 23 Alert 24 Mother's ruin
DOWN: 1 Hatch 2 Rhubarb 3 Ache 4 Nickel 5 Impostor 6 Squaw 7 Kernel 12 Stagnant 13 Dearth 15 Parvenu 16 Pierce 18 Priam 20 Baton 21 Yaws

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West Hull happy with cup draw

By Christopher Irvine

WEST Hull, the first amateur rugby league side in 99 years to reach the last 16 of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup, are justified in thinking that their odyssey might yet continue. Wakefield Trinity, albeit five-*times winners*, or *Carlisle* are not opposition to make the Conference team tremble.

After embarrassing York 10-6 at The Boulevard last Friday — Chorley were their first professional scalps in the *previous round — Eddie Bennett*, the West Hull coach, was optimistic about making further progress. "Wakefield certainly have not done too well recently; we're at home — that will do me," he said.

The fifth-round draw, made last night handed Wigan, the holders since 1988, an awkward task away to Salford, the first division champions, for whom Andy Gregory, the coach, will be hoping to upstage his former club. In a draw congested by 12 fourth-round *postponements, Leeds*, provided that they win at Swinton on Sunday, have an all-Super League clash at either Oldham or Warrington.

FIFTH ROUND: Hull KR or Leigh v Bradford or Batley; Salford v Wigan; Dewsbury or London v Workington or Widnes; Rochdale or Thatto Heath v Castleford or St Helens; Whitehaven or Halifax v Sheffield; Oldham or Warrington v Swinton or Leeds; West Hull v Carlisle or Wakefield; Hull or Hunslet v Keighley or Barrow. *Ties to be played on Feb 10 or 11*

The new Paris club yesterday announced a squad of 26 *for the Super League*, which includes virtually the entire France national side, six Australians, a New Zealander, a Pole and a Moldovan. Training starts in earnest next week and the club's opening game at Charlety Stadium, against Sheffield, is less than nine weeks away.

Tas Baitieri, the Paris chief executive, has refuted sugges*tions that his team is not* sufficiently prepared for the task ahead. "It is an extremely strong squad and we are delighted that so many top French stars have decided to join us," he said. "It certainly looks good for the start of Super League."

Pre-season matches against first division English opponents in early March will be a first opportunity to assess the strength of a side that is devoid of obvious star quality but which is not short on *players. Among them*, Patrick Entat, the captain, Daniel Divet and Frederic Banquet have all played in Britain.

Leeds's quest for a scrum half suffered a renewed setback yesterday with a failed *attempt to sign Jason Ferris, of* Canberra, although the announcement, today, of a ground-sharing arrangement at Headingley with Leeds rugby union club could extend to a sharing of players.

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